

• THE • AMERICAN • SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW



Photograph by Fischer

TIVOLI AND THE OPERA OF STOCKHOLM



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FINANCIAL NOTES

NORWAY'S FINANCES MAKE STEADY GAIN

Judged from various indications of recent date, Norwegian finances show a continuous upward trend. The note circulation of the Bank of Norway has been steadily decreasing, the foreign exchange value of the krone has risen, and the exports show a noteworthy growth. With the new comprehensive banking act going into effect January 1, 1925, Norwegian bank depositors were placed at a better advantage than heretofore, since they are represented in the respective banks, on the bank council board. Some of the other decrees of the new law are similarly for the benefit of depositors as making for guarantees against losses.

DENMARK'S FOREIGN DEBT STATED

In accordance with the bill passed last year concerning measures for safeguarding the Danish krone, the Statistical Department, in co-operation with the Exchange Central, has just published an account dealing with the country's foreign indebtedness. At the end of 1924 this debt is estimated to have been about 1,275,000,000 kroner as compared with about 1,225,000,000 kroner at the end of 1923. Ten years ago the foreign debt was only 748,000,000 kroner.

U. S. DOLLAR UNDERVALUED, SAYS PROF. CASSEL

An undervaluation of the dollar in respect to the English pound by as much as four per cent is claimed by Professor Gustav Cassel to have existed during the past winter. The noted Swedish economist's statement is made public by the Skandinaviska Kreditaktiebolaget. For the undervaluation of the dollar Professor Cassel finds three causes: First, the policy of extremely liberal credits to Europe which the United States embarked upon after the adoption of the Dawes plan; second, the fact that New York has maintained a considerably lower discount rate than London, and third, speculation in the expected return of the pound sterling to the pre-war par. Last October this undervaluation was only about one per cent, but by November it had risen to over four and was still at that level by the end of February. After reviewing the rate of exchange between the dollar and the pound since the "pegging" was stopped in March, 1919, Professor Cassel says that "undervaluation of the dollar coincided with those periods when credits were liberally granted by the United States to the rest of the world and overvaluation of the dollar with periods when grants of credit were restricted."

NORWEGIAN OVER-SEA BANK UNION LIQUIDATED

The Norwegian Over-Sea Bank Union, started at the close of 1918 as an after-the-war enterprise which promised good results, has just been liquidated with nothing remaining of the 15,000,000 kroner invested by stockholders. Banks were established in Argentina and in Brazil, the Argentine bank being disposed of to Norwegian business men in that country, while the Brazil institution showed nothing left on which to realize.

SCANDINAVIAN BANK INSPECTORS MEET

After a meeting of the various Scandinavian bank inspectors had long been discussed as promising co-operation of value, such a meeting took

place in Copenhagen with Bank Inspector Hald presiding. The other Scandinavian countries were represented by Bank Inspector van Krusenstierna, Stockholm; Chief Bank Inspector Rundquist, Helsingfors; Supervisor of the Icelandic banks, Jacob Moller, and the directors in the Norwegian Bank and Savingsbank Inspection, Haugaard and Weber-Lauman. As this was the first time the three countries' bank inspectors met to discuss matters of common interest, some effects from the meeting are anticipated.

SWEDISH RAILWAYS SHOW GOOD PROFIT

The net profits of the Swedish State Railways for 1924 were 30,200,000 kronor, as compared with 24,300,000 kronor for the year previous. This year the management expects to turn over to the State budget 500,000,000 kronor more than for 1924. From April 1 the use of round trip tickets at reduced rates was extended from zones of 70 kilometer to 366, with the same privileges to make stop-overs and check baggage as on straight fares. The rates on sleeping cars and for limited express trains have been reduced by cuts ranging from 17 to 25 per cent. Freight rates on certain bulky goods have also been cut this spring from ten to twenty per cent. All this is sure evidence of the prosperous condition of the Government roads.

PRICE LEVELS IN THE U. S. AND ELSEWHERE

Data made available by studies of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics establish the fact that the price advance which has taken place since 1913 in the cost of living is less for the United States than for any other important country, except Canada. If the price levels are converted to a gold basis, however, that for the United States is one of the highest. According to the Federal Reserve Board, wholesale prices, adjusted to take into account the depreciation of foreign currencies, in March, 1925 (using the 1914 price level in the United States as the base 199), were as follows: United States, 169; England, 171; France, 124; Canada, 153. In Japan, in February, wholesale prices (using the same base) stood at 168.

IS NORWAY TO CALL IN BIG AMERICAN LOAN?

According to the *Foreign Securities Investor*, of New York, Norway is contemplating the calling in of its entire American loan of \$20,000,000 of 8 per cent bonds, and the publication gives as authority for this statement a report received by the United States Department of Commerce from its Oslo adviser. The bonds are callable on October 1 at 110. The loan was floated in 1920, when interest charges were close to the high point in recent years, and could now be refunded at a coupon rate of at least two interest points less. The department's report is to the effect that \$10,000,000 had already been deposited with American bankers in anticipation of Norway's plan to take up the outstanding bonds.

U. S. BUDGET AND NATIONAL ECONOMY

Herbert M. Lord, Director General of the United States Bureau of the Budget, in making public the results of four years of operation of the Bureau, shows that in the fiscal year of 1921, the last pre-budget year, expenditures by the Federal Government, exclusive of the amount applied to reduction of the public debt, were \$5,116,000,000.

1864

1925

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CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS NUMBER OF THE REVIEW

Our own correspondent in Stockholm, YNGVE HEDVALL, has written of Sweden's "Prince Charming" and of his opera a hundred and fifty years ago. Each year we expect something from his pen on the Swedish stage and allied arts. In this number and in the Yule Number, we have touched the two extremes of the history of Swedish opera; then the art of Sweden at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and now its inception at the court of Gustaf III.

W. W. WORSTER is an Englishman who goes north for his work and for his holidays. Our readers know him for his translations from modern Scandinavian literature and for his contributions to our pages on literary subjects.

From his *gaard* in Nordre Rugeldalen, JOHAN FALKBERGET sends us his story of Røros, his own literary province. This is the first fruit of the editor's recent visit to Norway. We can promise our readers other stories by Falkberget.

From our own series of SCANDINAVIAN CLASSICS we have culled a few proverb-like sentences.

And from these we turn to *Marie Grubbe* for a supplement to Mr. PAULLI's description of the country gentleman, Holberg. When Marie Grubbe met him, a passenger on her ferry, he was "a little slender man who stood, pale and shivering after the seasickness he had just endured, wrapped in his mantle of coarse, greenish-black stuff, and leaning against the side of a boat that had been dragged up on the beach. Master Holberg was a very quiet man of remarkably youthful appearance. He kept to himself, spoke but little, and that little—so it seemed—with reluctance. Not that he avoided other people, but he simply wanted them to leave him in peace and not to draw him into conversation. When the ferry came and went with passengers, or when the fishermen brought in their catch, he liked to watch the busy life from a distance and to listen to the discussions. He seemed to enjoy the sight of people at work, whether it was ploughing or stacking or launching the boats, and whenever anyone put forth an effort that showed more than common strength, he would smile with pleasure and lift his shoulders in quiet delight."



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"THAT FANCIFUL AND GENIAL PRINCE CHARMING, GUSTAF III," WHO CREATED THE OPERA OF SWEDEN. PASTEL BY LORENS PASCH THE YOUNGER

THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

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How Sweden Got Its Opera

By YNGVE HEDVALL

TRAGEDY AND COMEDY can claim an ancestry through several centuries before Christ; but the art of opera was a child of the late Renaissance. This is natural enough: the opera, with its peculiar character, requires a high standard of general musical culture in spectators as in performers; it requires in one person, both singer and actor; it needs real theatres with complicated mechanism, and especially it needs the support of the purely decorative arts. In short the opera is an intricate combination of several arts. In all lands it can be said that the appearance of a significant operatic art is the acme of dramatic culture joined with a love of music—except in Sweden, where a truly imposing and fully native opera was created before the theatre at large had “stepped out of its infant shoes.” This was the work of that fanciful and genial Prince Charming, Gustaf III, whose ability and zeal for service created the opera. It was he who wished Sweden “to begin where other nations stopped,” to use the words of Count Gustaf Johan Ehrensvärd, his first theatrical director.

In Sweden of late, students now and then had made attempts at acting, and at the court of Queen Christina, in the middle of the seventeenth century, there had been an occasional ballet with declamation; but of professional drama there was to be found only what traveling French and German troupes could offer. Charles XI and his court (1660-1697) had on occasion amused themselves with dramatics, and at the age of seventeen Charles XII had imported a troupe of foreign actors—French, of course—for his personal amusement. But the following years of national distress scattered this troupe; and the succeeding monarch, King Fredrik I, a native German who did not even speak the language of Sweden, was an inveterate warrior and hunter, with little taste for poetry and music. In the middle of the 1730's an

attempt to create a native theatre was actually made by a couple of learned noblemen. Bollhuset, which had been erected one hundred years earlier near the palace at Slottsbacken and used by the foreign actors, was secured as a theatre. Gradually there developed a group of professional actors and a few Swedish plays. But in 1744 Stockholm saw the advent of the sister of the great German King Fredrik II, Lovisa Ulrika, who came as the spouse of Adolf Fredrik, the heir to the Swedish throne. She was a gifted woman, ambitious like her brother and like him enamored of French culture and its foremost representative at this time—Voltaire. The Swedish theatre, with its crude performance, coarse manners and far from elegant plays, made very little appeal to her. Accordingly, through her efforts the Swedish actors were driven from Bollhuset, which was now taken over by a specially summoned French troupe. Later an Italian operatic troupe was also procured; so that the Swedish company must content itself with traveling about the country, a condition which caused the further deterioration of its standards. One member, Peter Stenborg, later became the leader of this company and returned to Stockholm, where he gave performances for the general public at large at various more or less unsuitable halls.

Meanwhile King Adolf Fredrik died early in 1771. The crown prince was at the time studying in Paris in the company of his young friend and chamberlain, Count Ehrensvärd. Gustaf—whose royal title is Gustaf III—from his earliest youth had the theatre craze; as a child he had often been surprised acting in bed of an evening instead of sleeping, and at the age of ten he had written his first play (later to be followed by many more), which was given at court with himself and his royal parents in the leading rôles. This unassuming little play had as its hero a theatre-mad boy, and was thus a satire on the prince himself. Later Gustaf had been one of the most active supporters of the two court theaters at the pleasure palaces of Drottningholm* and Ulriksdal. To the astonishment of all, and not least to his mother's, one of his first official acts as a regent was a communication from Paris that the French troupe was to be dismissed and sent home.

When the year of mourning for the death of the old king was over and Bollhuset still stood empty after the departure of the foreigners, there arose a cry for a Swedish theatre, and the papers called attention to the neglect with which the authorities hitherto had treated the native dramatic art, which should hold just as great promise of development as that of any other country if it received the proper encouragement. Hopes were expressed that the new monarch would understand this; and, since it is probable that Gustaf had entertained thoughts of a similar nature when he dismissed the French actors, the

* The theatre at Drottningholm, which was dedicated in 1766 and still exists as a theatrical museum, has previously been described by this magazine.

papers were justified in their hopes. The old theatre director, Peter Stenborg, approached the king early in 1772 with a request that he might give a trial performance in Bollhuset. This was granted, and on March 11 the first performance took place. In the opinion of connoisseurs the production was not of a sort to furnish the basis of the Swedish theatre, but it did score a decided triumph with the less critical middle class, and the king was strongly impressed with the interest which his capital showed for the theatre.

In May of the same year the great coronation festivities were to take place. King Gustaf made a noteworthy resolution: The gala spirit was to be enhanced by a great performance; and, that it might be as magnificent as possible, nothing less than an opera was to be produced. Ehrensvärd was immediately made theatrical director. The project was overwhelming, and the new chief soon mistrusted his powers, but the king would listen to no objections. To be sure, it was found impossible to complete the undertaking in a couple of months, but nevertheless the plan was to be realized at all costs. A favorite author of occasional poetry, Alderman Johan Wallander, was commissioned to write the libretto from a sketch made by the king. The subject chosen was the old legend of Thetis and Pelée from the Roman mythology, a theme used for a French opera produced for Louis XIV; and in July the text was ready. Practically at the very time when the king was planning and executing his dramatic political coup (by means of which he ended the power of the factions so detrimental to the country and gained almost absolute monarchy for himself) he was also working out the plans for his theatre. The music of the new opera was entrusted to an Italian musical director, Uttini, after it had been demonstrated that no Swedish composer capable of the work was to be had. Uttini had belonged to the Italian opera company which previously had played at court, but he had remained in Sweden at the departure of his countrymen. A musical academy was instituted, and gradually a court orchestra was formed. A chorus was not so hard to obtain, but finding soloists was a more difficult problem. The country had a number of good singers, but they were all socially prominent; and in view of the very low standing of actors at that time, it was impossible to persuade the singers to sacrifice themselves for the theatre. The leading force of the musical academy was Patrik Alströmer, a munificent patron of literature and art—and the son of the great industrial leader, Jonas Alströmer, who introduced potatoes in Sweden. He hit upon the idea of placing the singers under the direct protection of the musical academy. Pressure brought to bear by the king did the rest, and at once the lovely and gifted Elizabeth Olin, an assessor's wife, and court secretary Karl Stenborg, the son of the theatre director, declared their willingness to take the leading rôles. When Fru Olin let her young daughter also work with her, it was an easier matter to persuade the



THE STARS OF THE FIRST OPERA, THETIS AND PELÉE. KARL STENBORG, A PORTRAIT BY ULRIKA PASCH, AND ELIZABETH OLIN, A PORTRAIT BY LORENS PASCH THE YOUNGER

other people necessary. The dancing was sponsored by a couple of artists who had belonged to the French opera company and still remained in the country. For the complicated machinery needed by the opera there was found a carpenter of such great mechanical ability that he succeeded without any help in carrying out his task; and a frail but skillful decorative painter finished the decorations surprisingly well. On the 18th of January, 1773, the first performance took place: the vision had become a reality, and out of practically nothing the king and his friends had conjured forth an opera which, according to the standards of the day, was in every way excellent.

The evening became a dazzling triumph. The rejoicing was great, the spectacle was magnificent, the performers made a surprisingly good appearance and the voices rang out in beautiful tones. In short, the performance proved one of the greatest successes in the history of Swedish opera, and it was repeated about twenty times, which is considerable if one reflects that Stockholm at this time had only about 70,000 inhabitants. That the Swedish spectators were delighted is not strange, since they had never seen anything of the sort before; but even the foreign ambassadors present were much impressed. To be sure, one of them fled from the theatre in fright—but this was due to the excellence of the mechanical devices! In Stockholm there was an emissary



THE OLD ROYAL THEATRE, BUILT BY GUSTAF III, REMOVED IN THE EIGHTEEN NINETIES

negotiating for the piratical states of Tripoli, and when the sea-god Neptune disappeared in the ocean amid raging waters and peals of thunder and flashes of lightning, it was too much for the Moor, who left his box in leaps and bounds.

The later programs also scored a triumph. A young singer, Kristofer Karsten, who as a seventeen-year-old had taken part at the dedicatory performances, was perhaps the finest singer the Swedish theatre has ever claimed; and Fru Olin continued to fill the leading feminine rôles.

Meanwhile, the stage at Bollhuset soon proved too small; so King Gustaf had a newer and bigger theatre built on the square opposite Norrbro—the square now called Gustaf Adolfstorg. This theatre, which cost 222,000 crowns, was ready September 30, 1782, when its dedication was celebrated with an all-Swedish opera, *Cora and Alonzo* (text by Adlerbeth and music by Naumann). Here the operatic art was carried on with even more magnificence than at Bollhuset; in fact, it drew from foreigners visiting the Swedish capital the most extravagant words of praise. King Gustaf continued making sketches for operas, and, with his characteristic patriotism, he sought to give them national themes. It was he who furnished the idea for the opera *Gustaf Vasa*, written by Naumann and the great poet Kellgren. The theme

was Gustaf Vasa's war of liberation against the Danes two and a half centuries earlier. The king's interest was not, however, limited to opera: he now opened Bollhuset to spoken drama, and even provided the troupe there assembled—in part the same people as for the opera—with several plays taking their motive from the glories of Swedish history. Examples are *Siri Brahe and Johan Gyllenstierna*, *Gustavus Adolphus and Ebba Brahe*, and *Helmfeldt*.

At one of the great masquerades frequently staged in the lovely salon of the opera, King Gustaf was shot, on March 16, 1792, by the discontented rebel, Anckarström. A few days later the king died as a result of the wound—undeniably a dramatic sortie for a monarch who had often jokingly been called "the theatre king." The Swedish drama was also hard hit by the shot of the assassin. The new government, which took over the destinies of the land during the minority of Gustaf's son, looked askance at the theatre. Bollhuset was closed and soon after torn down. To be sure, it was for a short time replaced by the de la Gardie palace *Makalös* (Matchless) in Kungsträdgården near the Opera; but from official headquarters the theatre received no encouragement, and from 1806-1809 the theatres were closed entirely. After this time the large stage was used not only for operas but also for large productions of a purely dramatic sort, and at the smaller theatre, the so-called Arsenal, a simpler and more popular repertoire was given. At this time the theatre had a number of gifted people: under the direction of Baron G. F. Åkerhielm (1818-1823), William Shakespeare was introduced with *Hamlet*, and a number of Swedish plays began to be written. Two years after Åkerhielm's retirement the Arsenal burned down; whereupon the old theatre had to lodge both musical and spoken drama for a half century. It is natural that the repertoire fluctuated a good deal under these circumstances; the theatre by no means reached its greatest heights. But, on the other hand, much of value was offered: there were artists like Jenny Lind, of world fame, the gentle and lovely Emilie Högvist—the mistress of Oscar I as a crown prince; stately Elise Hwasser, the singers Fritz Arlberg and Oscar Arnoldson, the actors Nils Wilhelm Almlöf and O. U. Torsslow; composers such as August Söderman and authors like August Blanche and Frans Hedberg. These all lent their distinct glamor to the Swedish stage.

In 1863, however, a theatre built twenty years earlier was bought as the abode of the dramatic department, although the direction of both opera and theatre continued till about 1880 under one head. Then the two branches of dramatic art were entirely separated; and the Dramatic Theatre, as the royal stage was called, has since then followed its own course.

The old theatre, the work of the architect Karl Fredrik Adelcrantz, was with its magnificent exterior one of the architectural gems



THE PRESENT ROYAL THEATRE ERECTED ON THE SITE OF ITS PREDECESSOR ON GUSTAF ADOLFSTORG

of Stockholm. Since it became altogether too antiquated at this time, it was decided that the theatre be rebuilt, which took place between 1891 and 1898. Unfortunately, the old masterpiece was wholly destroyed, and replaced by a building which in no sense can be said to beautify the place, even though it has a larger, more modern and more comfortable interior. During the construction of the new building, the Swedish Theatre was rented for plays, but on September 19, 1898, the Swedish song muses once more took up their abode at Gustaf Adolfstorg.

For a year now the destinies of the opera have been under the direction of one of its former greatest singers, John Forsell. After an interregnum, during which there has been a rage for outward show and a catering to the public, this court singer has once more flaunted the banner of art over the Swedish opera.

Music

By ERIK GUSTAF GEIJER

Translated by CHARLES WHARTON STORK

*Thought, whose hard strife only midnight may see,
Prayeth, O Music, to rest him with thee.
Feeling, oppressed by the day's garish light,
Turneth, O Music, to thee in her flight.*

—From Anthology of Swedish Lyrics.



TIVOLI'S MAIN ENTRANCE FROM VESTERBROGADE

Playgrounds of Copenhagen

A Summer Evening of Tivoli and Langelinie

By W. W. WORSTER

IT SEEMED the easiest thing in the world to write an article on Tivoli. The summer heart of Copenhagen, a refuge and a playground; the frame and setting of unforgettable hours . . . yes, I had the *Stemning*, the atmosphere, all right. But to transmit it, I found, was quite a different matter. To re-create a salad, or a cocktail, one must begin by analyzing the thing; resolving it into its separate ingredients. So I scrapped my *olla podrida* of recollections, and set about doing Tivoli as if I had never seen the place before. So conscientiously, indeed, that I went in first of all to worry the management, in the middle of a working day, with silly questions about facts and figures. I was passed through to Director Arne-Petersen, whose name stands for Tivoli to-day as that of Carstensen for Tivoli of old. He courteously gave me the facts I wanted, and a bunch of tickets, enough to provide a small family with entertainment through the summer. Omitting dry statistics, there are one or two main facts that count. Tivoli covers an area of 28 hectares, or 5000 square metres, and it was founded eighty years ago (by the above-mentioned

Carstensen, known also in U. S. A. in connection with exhibition architecture). The ground on which it stands was then outside the city walls; now it occupies a site in the very centre of a busy town, between the Raadhus and the central railway station. Modern Copenhagen, with its lakes and parks, broad boulevards and big museums, is lavish in open spaces; the retention of the Tivoli gardens as a place of recreation open only during the summer months, is a striking example.

Rus in urbe—the hackneyed term springs to one's pen. When you are feeling rather jaded about lunch time, and can step off the main thoroughfare of a big city, out of the jangle of trams and the whir of taxis, into a garden of shady, watered, flower-decked grounds, with half a dozen restaurants to choose from, all fronting on or islanded in cool greenery, what else *can* you call it? The only drawback about Tivoli for lunch is that you don't want to do any more work for the rest of the day.

But Tivoli in the daytime is the privilege of the leisured few. Its crowded hour of glorious life comes in the evening, when shops and offices are closed. Going in by the main entrance, you espy Moorish palaces to the front and right, with a Chinese-looking edifice on the left. This last is the Pantomime Theatre, with open-air seats in a scooped-out arena in front. The pantomime here is of the old Italian type, with Pierrot, Harlequin and Columbine, a quaint survival which has remained popular in Copenhagen. It is intended for the children, but seems to have a curious attraction for the grown-ups; there is always a crowd just here, overflowing on to the asphalt walk. Crossing this last, we pass straight



PIERROT OF THE PANTOMIME THEATRE



A PLACE FOR CHILDREN'S MEMORIES—THE PANTOMIME THEATRE, WITH ITS PEACOCK CURTAIN. WILHELM DAHLERUP, ARCHITECT, 1874



THE CONCERT HALL, WHERE PROGRAM SUCCEEDS PROGRAM OF SYMPHONIC MUSIC THROUGH THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING

on, unheeding the invitation of Kinzi's little tables and "Divan II," and merely glancing at the terraced front of "Nimb's." Nimb's is a place for later in the evening, where you eat lobster salad and always run across somebody you know. They give you very decent cocktails at Nimb's. A common or beer-garden drink can be had at the little shanty just beyond, where the chairs are set out 'round inviting barrel tables. Beyond this again is a liqueur pavilion, much patronized by gentlemen of a stout and elderly type, in the company of ladies who will not be either if they can help it. All these places—I hope you follow me—are on the right as we go down. The curious gallows-like erection on our left is for acrobatic performances. Here, if you care for such things, you may watch the world-famed contortionist, Signor Molto Appassionato, balancing a rope ladder on one eyelash, while his partner, Signora Cascara di Sagrada, climbs up it and twines herself into sky-writing signs on top.

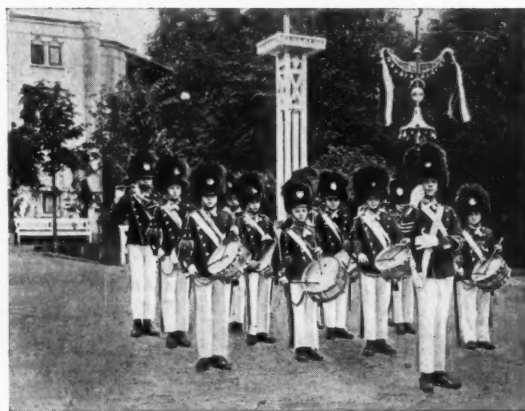
Passing on down the central aisle—this sounds like a guide book, I know, but I can't help it—we reach the Concert Hall in the center of the grounds. The music here is quite first class, and you can take it "neat," sitting straight up and down on a bench with the highbrows in the hall itself, or Philistine fashion, as the accompaniment to a very

good dinner in the wings. The last time I dined here, I had the additional diversion of watching a couple of Americans opposite solemnly taking their *table d'hôte* the wrong way 'round, starting with ice and ending up with soup.

Up in a corner, tucked away behind the Concert Hall, are the side shows, in which children and provincials delight; swings and roundabouts, shooting galleries and the like. There is a Hall of Magic, where the world-renowned illusionist, Professor Hyden Sieck, will turn a piece of chewing gum into a live rabbit while you wait, and draw forth articles of feminine attire from under the waistcoats of respectable citizens. "There is no deception." There is a dancing floor with two bands, where, if you are very democratic indeed, you can dance the whole evening for an entrance fee of next to nothing. Those less frivolously inclined may study the antics of the inferior vertebrates in aquaria, terraria, and other aria-varia. The languishing rudiment of a Zoological Garden trails off from the outskirts of the low comedy department down to the lake.

It is a pretty walk 'round the tiny ornamental water, with a colonnade of flowers and overhanging trees. Early in the evening, before the crowd arrives, it is as peaceful a spot as one could find. The few people one sees; an old man sitting pensively, a girl with book or needlework, seem somehow to make it more peaceful still. Even on firework and festival nights it is quieter here than elsewhere. The Italian Restaurant, staged amid effective ruins rising from the lake, caters less to the multitude than to the venturesome few; its *Escaloppe*, *Cannelloni*, *Ravioli*, its olives and garlic and gorgonzola are caviar to the general. The "Bastion"—a relic of days when the place formed part of the fortifications—serves mild refreshments, but is not a noisy place. And Styrmand Charon Petersen, who rows you through the flaming grotto under the ruined temple, plies his oars with an air of ruminant calm.

There is really a touch of magic about this corner of Tivoli; a glamor that transmutes its own surroundings into something rich and strange. The solid edifice of the old Art Industry Museum just outside the grounds stands darkly at one end; the Raadhus itself rises magnificently beyond. And somehow, these two pieces of hard and fast workaday architecture are here appropriated to



THE POPULAR TIVOLI GUARD PARADES THE GROUNDS



TIVOLI'S LAKE AND THE CHINESE TOWER

the scenic decoration. In the half-light after sunset especially, *entre chien et loup*, one feels them as a part of it. Art, fantasy, illusion, atmosphere, call it what you will, has encroached upon reality, spinning it into the web of a fairy tale. We are in Hans Christian Andersen's country after all.

Having done the side shows, and drifted through the enclave of romance, we return, as it were, to civilization, and comport ourselves accordingly. The asphalt walk in the upper part of the grounds is the bed of a tangled stream, folk flowing this way and that at an easy pace, observing and being observed, between the groups of tables. One loses count of the restaurants and cafés as one goes on. Family parties trailing solemnly, gilded youth with a roving eye, a guardsman with his girl, two more on the look-out for similar company, and here and there some well-known figure, followed by whispers and turning of heads. A group of provincial "matadors" (or possibly members of parliament), soberly dressed, looking rather stolid and uncouth amid the general gaiety; another of boys newly confirmed, constrained alike by their new dignity and their new clothes; a party of English sailors, with that quaint mixture of shyness and fun that marks the type abroad. Here are all sorts and conditions of men—and women. One may even chance upon the "lost child"—a recurrent feature of the place—wailing ineffectively in response to kind inquiries, until taken over by a helpful functionary who somehow magics it back to

its Mama. On special nights, the Tivoli Guard, composed of children in military and naval uniforms, parades the grounds, with martial music at its head.

One of the most lovable things about Tivoli is that in spite of the modern attractions roped in by an up-to-date management, such as American entr'acte films on the screen of the pantomime theatre, it somehow contrives to remain—I had almost said, innocently old-fashioned. At any rate, in some way old-fashioned. It is a democratic institution, and never becomes "mondain." I'm not quite sure what "mondain" means (they spell it *mondæn* in Danish)—but it seems to stand for something foreign and meretricious as the word itself, an undesirable alien importation, a kind of ultra-fashionable showing off, that would like to be thought immoral, and mainly succeeds in being vulgar. One gets it rather at the seaside resorts, among people with more money and less work than is good for them. Tivoli may not be altogether virtuous, but it has a good, solid backing of decent middle-class folk, the old-fashioned citizen families that take their pleasures with simplicity.

All this moralizing plainly shows that I am wanting my supper. As I have hinted already, there is an *embarras de richesses* in the matter of places where to eat and drink. One may cut the Gordian knot by leaving Tivoli to amuse its multitudinous self and going off somewhere else to digest one's impressions. To Frederiksberg, for instance.

Vesterbro's wheel-burnished asphalt, gleaming in the lamplight, and the dark, tree-lined length of Frederiksberg Allé seem but a continuation of the Tivoli scenery as we drive along. The suburb, once detached, now linked by tramlines to the capital, is still a centre of amusements. It was here that the poet Holger Drachmann found his muse; and his name is still exploited in advertisement. Cold-blooded commercialism notwithstanding, one may still find something of the atmosphere in which his lyrical verse and hardly less lyrical prose were born among the *cafés chantants*, inns, and taverns here.

We enter through a garden with scented limes, trellised arbors and little colored lights. The Jazz band on the



THE LAST ROCKET OF A NIGHT IN
TIVOLI

terrace is stumbling out the last few knock-kneed bars of the latest-imported American fox-trot; it ceases as we reach the steps—and a tiny fountain that has been tinkling unheeded under the limes comes to its own again. "Jazz may come and Jazz may go, but I go on forever." We peep into a little shanty picturesquely decorated in a studiously humble style, with low ceiling, peasant furniture, and antique trifles; again with an odd effect of mixing actuality and illusion, like the live policeman at a wax-works show. Another feature of these interiors is their curious faculty of assimilating tobacco smoke as part of their own atmosphere, both literal and artistic.

I prefer to stay outside. Here, with an "*engelsk boeuf*" beneath the bough, a glass of beer, and a cigar aglow, here I can sit and write my notes at ease, and Frederiksberg is Paradise enow. An *engelsk boeuf*, by the way, despite the name, is one of the Danish national dishes, as far as restaurant meals are concerned. I always order one as soon as I land in Esbjerg; you can't get it in England.

But it seems a pity to linger anywhere within doors this fine summer night. I have hit upon another way of ending up my evening, and one that I will vouch for Drachmann himself would have approved.

If you have not seen Strandvejen, say between eleven and twelve of a summer night, you have something yet to see. It is a twenty minutes' drive, or less, to Constantia or "Over Stalden," open-air cafés at the edge of the Charlottenlund woods, looking out over the Sound. Here, under heavy-crowned trees, comes an endless procession, moving all but silently, behind innumerable little glow-worm lights. Copenhagen and its environs are made for cycling, and the old-fashioned bicycle flourishes here, a graceful survival in an age of more impetuous traffic. Half the youth of the city is coming home this way; from the Deer Park, with the Open Air Theatre and the Fair at Dyrehavsbakken; from Klampenborg and Skodsborg, from the woods and water that line the Strandvej for so many a pleasant a mile. It is pretty to watch the shadowy figures gliding by, light shades and dark behind their tiny lamps, with a steady hum of voices and a faint whir of the wheels. A visitor might envy the city that has such playgrounds, and such easy access to them all at the end of its working day.

One other little sight—a pilgrimage one might call it—and I have done. The stream is thinning now, the Strandvej suburbs are settling down for the night, Hellerup is quiet save for the last few tramcars, the Tuborg Brewery stands big and silent, idle to all outward seeming; the great bathing stages at Helgoland show out white and still against the water. Österbro is disentangling the last of its homeward bounds at the Triangle; Classensgade is dark, save for one shaded lamp at an upper floor. Some one is working late perhaps. Or perhaps . . .

The Pavilion at Langelinie is closed and darkened as to its front,



THE LITTLE MERMAID OF LANGELINIE, BY EDV. ERICHSEN

though a car or two still waits at the gable end. Just before it, the promenade slopes down to the water in a tiny spit of land strewn with odd stones. And on the largest of these, just within the water's reach, a woman is seated.

I know no work of art so lovingly conceived, in such a perfect setting, as the bronze Mermaid at Langelinie. The small, slight figure, so very nearly human, so eloquently posed, so naturally and trustfully at home. It seems a symbol; as if here, in this little sea-scattered land, sea-fairies had found a place for their abiding, as the elver maidens found it long since in the woods. The cult of nature, shaping unconsciously a spirit of its longing, lies deep as a religion in the hearts of men. And here, where wood and water sprite have lived so long, they venture nearer than elsewhere.

A mermaid is not real; it is not sense. Even the children know there is no such thing. And yet—even grown-ups at times may wish there were, and be grateful to those who help us to pretend. This kindly land had ever a bowl of porridge for its house-goblin; ever an eye and ear for the shadows and whisperings of romance.

Romance seems very near to one in Denmark; it seems a land where fairy tales are true.

Röros, the Copper Town of Norway

By JOHAN FALKBERGET

IN THE church at Röros there hangs a portrait of an old man in a blue cloak and with an amazingly long gray beard. He stands holding a musket in one hand and a bit of ore in the other. Under this picture is inscribed this naïve bit of verse:

*Stand, reader, here and gaze upon
The man who Storvarts mine first found,
And caused, next God, that now the word
Of Christ is from this pulpit heard,
And many men are living here
Where once there was a desert drear.
Praise God, and wish that graybeard blest
That peacefully his bones may rest.*

*Long may this mine and city thrive,
And as their founder here did live
A hundred years and then sixteen,
So may God bless his kith and kin,
That many generations may
Be born and rejoice in the name of
Hans Aasen.*

Born anno 1557, died 1673.

Hans Aasen was born in Herjedalen, which was then a part of Norway, though now it belongs to Sweden. He was a hunter and trapper. On one of his expeditions he accidentally found a bit of ore in a mountain called Storvala. If the generally accepted date, 1643, is correct, he was then ninety years old, but was still a mighty hunter. He took aim at a wild reindeer, shot, and felled it, but the noise of the shot frightened his companions so that they took flight, and in their running, the old record says, "their feet scraped off the earth on a spot whereunder lay a stone." This stone became the foundation of the Röros Copper Works.

Judging from his portrait in the church, Hans Aasen was a stern man with a steely eye and a rather coarse, heavily built face. He was certainly not a man to be played with. Numerous portraits of dignitaries hang in the church at Röros, clergymen with imperious faces and mining directors in their blue coats and with swords at their sides, but among them all the picture of Hans Aasen is beyond comparison the most impressive. As the founder of the city stands there, looking down upon generation after generation, he is in truth a saga figure. Even the huge tree under which the painter has posed him adds to the illusion of hoary eld, and the gray haze that hovers over the

picture is like that which our childish imaginations conjured up around the figures of the sagas.

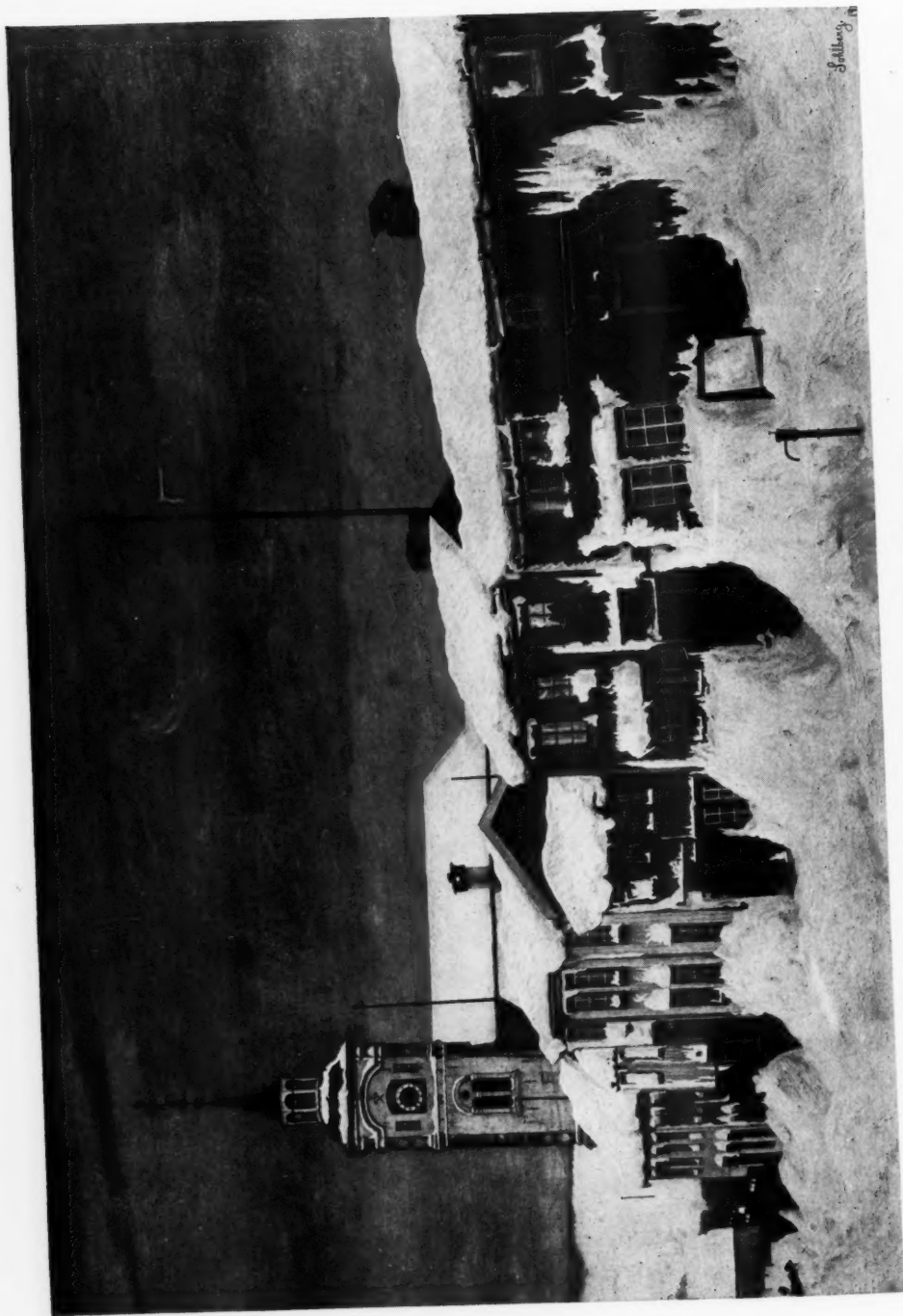
Behind the altar in the dim light hangs a curious picture of one of the early mining directors. An epitaph in Latin tells us that he was Johannis Jürgens of Itzehoe, Holstein, and that he was a doctor of medicine. He is dark of mien and, according to tradition, was "hard after vittles," that is, determined in his pursuit of his own gain. He looks it, and as for his wife, Elisabeth Arnisæus, daughter of Christian IV's court physician, she looks simply as if she were a descendant of the underground people.

The church itself used to be called *Bergstadens Ziir*, and it really is an ornament to the town, a jewel in an humble setting. It was built and owned by the "Works," which were all-powerful in those days. The old church had long been so decrepit that it had at last become necessary to prop it up so it should not tumble down. In 1774 the powers that ruled the Works decided that 10 rixdollars per share should be set aside every year for the building of a new church. Later the money received for the copper plates furnished for the roof of Trondhjem cathedral was devoted to the same purpose.

It was first intended that the church should be of wood, but when it was proved that a building of stone would cost only 30 rixdollars per share more, it was decided to use the more permanent material. Work began in earnest in 1779 under a builder named Mohr, who had



HANS AASEN, THE DISCOVERER OF THE ORE OF RØROS IN 1643



A STREET IN RÖRÖS, BY HARALD SOHLBERG

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been called in for the purpose, but after a few weeks Mohr made himself "unworthy" to fill his position. He was called before a miners' court and accused of having used abusive language to his superiors, and for this reason as well as for his "lewd way of living" he was dismissed, and Svend Aspaas engaged in his place.

The windows were ordered from Birid glass works, after it had been decided as a result of long discussions, to frame the panes in wood and putty, which was supposed to be better and more lasting than lead. The clock was brought from Sweden. Some of the ornaments of the old church were carried over to the new, but as "candle-branches of wood" were wanted, the old chandeliers were discarded except those donated to the church by the workmen in the mines some forty years earlier. One of the others was given to Aalen church, and the rest "put away in a convenient place." Director Hjort was allowed to help himself to the old pulpit and other old carved woodwork. The church was dedicated in 1784.

If the church is beautiful and even imposing, the two churchyards of the town are all the more depressing. In former times, when the smelting-huts and furnaces spewed their poisonous sulphur fumes over the city and its surroundings, it was difficult if not impossible to get anything to grow there, but now when the smelting-huts are empty and the furnaces cold, it might at least be possible to make the grass "bite" on the churchyards. The fact is that the Røros people care little about the resting-places of the dead. The graves have sunk so that we can hardly see the gray stone slabs with the names and dates cut on them. Perhaps this carelessness has something to do with the stern and harsh requirements of life in the copper town; the living have more than enough to do in providing for themselves, and have neither time nor means to spend in caring for the bones of their fathers.

The upper churchyard is the last resting-place of the common people. It is bounded only by a wall of piled-up stones, but it lies in a high, free position with a view over a long stretch of mountain plateau. Nature has given this spot a weird beauty, and with very little trouble and expense it could be made attractive. Here the mining-folk sleep side by side the last long sleep after all their labor and travail. Sad as this graveyard is, it has nevertheless about it something of the great calm beauty of eternity.

The lower graveyard, which lies close to the church, has long been reserved for "the government," by which the common people mean the ministers, judges, and sheriffs as well as the bosses at the Works, physicians and lawyers—in short, all the bigwigs. These graves have been fairly well kept, and yet the churchyard seems somehow sadder even than that of the poor people, because it lies in the shadow of the church.

The city has had another graveyard which once surrounded the

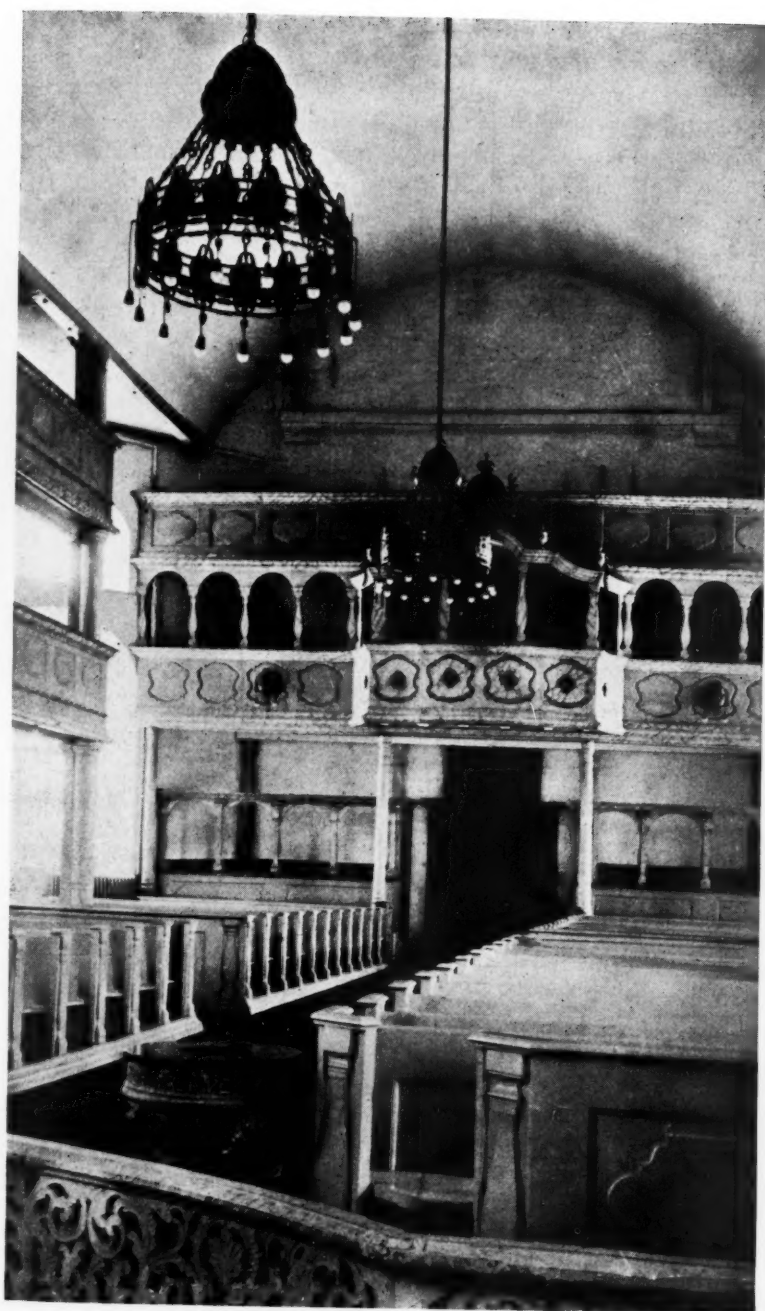


THE CHURCH AT RÖROS

old church, but it is long since leveled with the ground and a part of it has even been used for a street. There, no doubt, Hans Aasen is buried, but the townspeople have not cared for his grave, and now no one knows where the founder of the city was laid to rest when he departed this life at the age of a hundred and sixteen. (We ought to give him a monument; we owe him that much!)

At the edge of the lower churchyard, by the new church, is the grave-chamber of Director Hjort, a tiny red-painted house simply but tastefully decorated. Hjort, who died in 1789, was one of the ablest directors the Works have ever had. He was very popular with his workmen, and it is said that they spoke to him with the familiar "thou" and called him Per—a mode of address that would have entailed serious consequences if used to any of the other directors. He established a fund for the poor and needy and in other ways did much for the copper town.

Röros Copper Works began August 28, 1644, when Oberberghauptmann Hans Sigfrid von Lüttichau issued a permit, framed in a curious mixture of Norwegian and German, allowing Lorentz Lossius and his partner Peter Petersen to work a certain vein of ore running under the mountain Rödhammer east of Röros. This mine, however, proved of little value, and it was not until the Storvarts mine was started, a year after, that the newborn industry gave promise of success. Hr. Lossius had the first smelting-hut built in 1646. The director seemed well pleased with his undertaking, for he wrote to his



INTERIOR OF RÖRÖ CHURCH

father-in-law, Hr. Ander in Meldalen: "Das Werck get aller ortten tapfer fort habe schon Wider bey, 40 Skipp: Kaupfer in verck und soll mit gottes helff den gantzen Winter gehen."

Around this smelting-hut the copper city grew up: tiny little square gabled houses set in a row—a doll city! A dwelling-place for a people that were little better than slaves, miserable shelter against the snow and cold and north wind! Many lived in huts made of earth; they were not used to anything better, they were conceived and born in poverty and want.

The next mine that was opened was Arvedal or the King's Mine. Then came Christian VI's Mine and Muggruben, besides many smaller mines round about. As the ore in the early days was melted out of the mountain with wood fires, and the smelting in the huts was done with charcoal, it was inevitable that the slow-growing mountain forest should be destroyed. After a single generation the copper town was surrounded by bleak, treeless hillsides. The smelting-huts had to be built farther and farther away, where there was still wood to be had, such as at Fæmundssjöen, Tolgen, and Holtaalen.

Life at the mines and smelting-huts was one of hardship and privation. The men had to live on the naked, windswept mountain with no shelter except the tiny stony huts which were often as cold and cheerless as the mine itself. There the miners and their horses huddled together under one roof, and there was very little difference between man and beast—certainly not in the consciousness of mine-owners and directors.

Sometimes the miners did not even get their scanty pay and had to go on strike. But it was not enough merely to cease working; they had to back their words with force. Generally they would gather in some place in the wilderness and pledge themselves under oath that they would stand together no matter what happened. Then they would arm themselves with pick-axes, clubs, and an occasional musket, march into town, and demand to see the director. One of their leaders, known as Spell-Ola, was even sent to Copenhagen to plead their cause with King Christian V, but without much success. When he came back "the government" put Spell-Ola under arrest, but his companions came one night and lifted the jail from its foundations, so that the prisoner, though he was in irons, could crawl out. He was carried to his home in triumph, and "the government" knew better than to molest him again. Tradition has ascribed to this early labor leader something of an Odin aspect; like Odin, he was one-eyed, but, unlike the old Norse god, he was very poor, for he owned only one draught-ox.

The miners got their supplies from the stores at the Works. It is related that when one of the early directors of the Works, Johannes Jürgens, wanted a road built for his own convenience he put up a

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A WOMAN IN RÖROS COSTUME

supply store at Rørosgaard, and the workmen were fooled into building a road on the assumption that they were making it for themselves—that it was “their own road.”

Most of the functionaries of the Works in the early days were Germans, and many of them knew very little about mining, but were appointed because they were kinsmen of one of the mine-owners.

During the boundary wars the copper town, the mines, and the smelting-huts were repeatedly sacked by the Swedes. In the summers of 1678 and 1679 the town was burned and the church pillaged. Then the townspeople again had to spend several severe winters in huts made of earth.

Almost all the people in the copper town and country parish have combined farming with mining, until the Works some years ago practically ceased operations. Most of the people in town have their little stable with three or four cows and bring in hay from the small meadow lots outside of town. Even farther away, in the narrow mountain valleys, busy hands have been at work clearing and building for the past three hundred years. Before that time the region was used only for hunting and grazing by the people in Gauldalen, especially in Aalen. Hunting big game, elk and wild reindeer, was carried on vigorously, as we may see from the numerous graves of animals in the vicinity. Now the big game is almost all gone, and the lakes and tarns are empty of fish. Until a few years ago hares and white grouse were fairly abundant, at least in some years.

To farm in these high mountain regions is not exactly sweet milk. We have eight months of winter. Grain seldom ripens in the summer, and the potato vine freezes in the “iron nights” in August. As fuel to take the place of wood, which is getting scarcer and scarcer, the people use peat. This is very plentiful, but it is difficult to get it dry in wet summers. Reindeer moss ekes out the scanty supply of hay. It is pulled up with iron rakes, stacked in great piles, and carted down in the winter.

Formerly the people depended largely on the mountain valleys for hay. They had little time to cultivate their home meadows and usually did nothing but spread a little manure between the biggest rocks. Things went somehow even with those primitive means, but the method had its drawbacks. Now the steel plough, unknown fifty years ago, is used spring and fall in the stony ground. Like all innovations, it was looked on with suspicion in the beginning; it was thought to “spoil” the meadow. Now all are engaged in “spoiling” their meadows, and it seems to pay.

The town and the country parish have had a hard time since the Works closed its doors. That “R. W.” should ever cease operations was something unthinkable. It had weathered so many troubles for the last three centuries! We often complained that it took us all with

hair and hide, and that its grind was especially hard on the young people, but when R. W. closed its doors and turned the key, then the young people left us, and that was a good deal worse. It is all very well to say that we should put all our strength into farming, but life up here above the tree level is not arranged for farming only. It needs the mines, and the golden stream has entered our blood. Besides, the tiny mountain farms are not too large for the old folks to handle alone, which means that there is nothing to keep the young people at home. But where the young are gone, life is ebbing out. Everything becomes gray and desolate as a churchyard. We must call them home now! Not to

a hopeless grind, not to labor without purpose! We must promise them work that will show results, both economic and spiritual. For life demands a result, otherwise it will crumble in the dust. We must see to it that our young people are not rendered superfluous; for they are the strong breath and the sound blood of the race.

*

Spring comes late to the copper town. It is rarely here before the end of May, but when the starling and the wagtail are with us, when the snow is gone from the roofs,



FALKBERGET'S GAARD

and the little hayfields stick their bleak, frozen faces up between the snowdrifts, then summer is near.

Here on the mountain spring is a miracle, a revelation! It is such an eternity since last spring that everything seems new to our eyes. The sun is in the heavens almost the whole twenty-four hours round. We hear the sound of rushing floods to the north and the south, and the capercaillie stands in the open doors of the birch woods playing the whole blue night long.

The Røros folk in former days—and some of them even now—get up early at this time of the year. These rare and golden hours must not be slept away. Winter is made for sleep—not summer and spring. In another month the trees will be in leaf, in two months the wild cherry will blossom—we are a little backward, we don't expect anything better. Meanwhile, until this happens, we feast our eyes on the sight of melting snow and on the lakes and tarns which burst their chains of ice and mirror the blue heavens in their clear eyes.

Wit and Wisdom from the Classics

THE CAUSE OF SIGHS

"Counsels three the mother gave her daughter:
Not to sigh, not to be discontented,
Not to give a kiss to any lover.
Mother, if your daughter disobey not
In the last of these three things your counsel,
She will disobey in both the others."

Runeberg—Swedish Anthology.

THE CODE OF CHARLES XII

"A man should not only stand one against five. He should also be able to stand one against all."

The Charles Men.

REALITY AND PRETENSE

"Look you, this life—this earth—seems to me so splendid and wonderful, I should be proud and happy beyond words just to have some part in it. Whether for joy or grief matters not, but that I might sorrow or rejoice in honest truth, not in play like mummeries or shrovetide sports."

Marie Grubbe.

WOMAN'S WIT

"I am not any longer so struck with the wisdom of men. A woman keeps silent and pulls the strings: but you can never imagine how many are led by her strings."

The Family at Gilje.

THE WAY OF PARENTS

"If parents are good and sensible they will not fail to look after their children so long as they live; this is just as sure, I know, as that no one will tear the heart out of his own breast."

Sara Videbeck.

YOUTH AND AGE

"It is not well to be young and have a great deal of life that can suffer. I tell you, it is as with your teeth: there is no peace until you have them all in your table drawer."

The Family at Gilje.

PRIDE OF ANCESTRY

"Boast not thy father's fame, 'tis his alone;
A bow thou canst not bend is scarce thine own."

Frithiof's Saga.

PRIDE OF WEALTH

"People who are arrogant on account of their wealth are about equal in civilization to Laplanders, who measure a man's worth by the number of his reindeer. A man with a thousand reindeer is a very great man."

Fredrika Bremer.

PRIDE OF LEARNING

"If we farmers should take a pen or a piece of chalk in our hands to calculate how far it is to the moon, you learned men would soon suffer in the stomach."

Erasmus Montanus.

PRIDE OF PLACE

"No matter in how exalted a place a human being may set his throne, no matter how firmly he may press the tiara of the exceptional, that is genius, upon his brow, he can never be sure that he may not, like Nebuchadnezzar, be seized with a sudden desire to go on all fours and eat grass and herd with the common beasts of the field."

Niels Lyhne.

THE SIMPLE LIFE

"Dear friends, of the many good things that I wish for you, above all I would name a rose garden and a quilting frame . . ."

Gosta Berling's Saga.



LUDVIG HOLBERG, AFTER A PAINTING BY A. ROSLIN

Ludvig Holberg, Country Gentleman

By R. PAULI

IN A SMALL country such as Denmark it has been at all times difficult to make a fortune by one's pen. But Holberg, the first great writer of comedies and popular scholarly works in Denmark, in this way as in others, occupies a special place. That fact that in his old age he grew to be a wealthy man is, however, due to various circum-



SORØ ACADEMY IN HOLBERG'S DAY

stances. In the first place he was a bachelor, and secondly, having known poverty in his youth, he was accustomed to very frugal habits which were further rendered necessary by his delicate health. While his expenses were small, his income on the other hand was large. A sure instinct told him what his contemporaries wanted to read, and, while making an immortal name for their author, his writings at the same time brought him an ample income which was not reduced by his being in part his own publisher. To this must be added that he was a well-paid functionary in the University of Copenhagen, which was then rich. Having acted as a professor for some years, he took over the post of treasurer to the University, or *quæstor*, and his natural aptitude for business concerns was thus further developed.

As soon as he himself had begun to earn a little money, he had to think of finding a sensible way of investing it. Banking was as yet quite undeveloped; credit associations were unknown, and he was thus forced to make his arrangements without these intermediaries. First he invested his money in mortgages on properties in Copenhagen, later on, when he came to take part in the administration of the landed property of the University, he was encouraged to invest in real estate. That his choice fell on the south of Sjælland was hardly a mere accident. It was a fertile district, well suited for profitable farming, and not too far from Copenhagen for him to travel down frequently to keep an eye on what was being done. It was thus no doubt practical considera-

tions which originally caused Holberg's name to become associated with the neighborhood of Sorö.

Holberg's various estates grew to considerable proportions in the course of years. The lonely old bachelor had now to consider what was to become, after his death, of all the wealth he had amassed by his industry and economy. Near relations he had none, and thus the idea not unnaturally occurred to him of leaving his inheritance to serve some purpose of public utility. Sorö Academy became the means by which this object was attained.

The cultural centre at Sorö was of ancient origin. The history of its monastery dates back to the 12th century when the founder of Copenhagen, Bishop Absalon, in conjunction with his brother and sister, donated the property for its foundation. After the Reformation the monastery was not, like most others, immediately abolished. This was delayed until the monks in residence had all died. When the last of them had passed away in 1586, King Frederik II converted the monastery into a boarding school for sixty young persons. This school continued to exist both after King Christian IV had founded an academy for young nobles at Sorö in 1623 and after it had been discontinued in 1665. Later on, however, the old school declined so that, in Holberg's time, its activities had to be temporarily suspended. It was the constant desire of the government to revive the school again in conjunction with a re-establishment of the academy, but the necessary funds for this useful purpose were lacking. Now it was known that Holberg, whose property was situated in this very neighborhood, cherished a desire to make a will for the benefit of the community, and so it was suggested to him that he should make the academy his heir. Simultaneously the offer was tendered him that his estates should be made into a barony and he himself be raised to the nobility as "Baron of Holberg." In this way his property could be kept together and his name, even outside literature, be eternally preserved in grateful memory by posterity.

This was done in 1747, and after that Holberg always showed great interest in the academy. Hence it was only natural that a magnificent tomb was arranged for him in the academy chapel, the old conven-



THE ARMS OF THE BARON HOLBERG WITH HIS OWN AUTOGRAPH



SORÖ. A COUNTRY IDYL

self on the brink of the grave? Holberg died in 1754 in the 70th year of his age, but it was not until much later that his chapel received its present shape. In 1780 his coffin was placed in a magnificent sarcophagus of Norwegian marble ornamented with sculptures by Johannes Wiedewelt, one of the best works of this noted sculptor. In 1813, when the academy was burnt down, Holberg's library was also entirely consumed by the flames. Fortunately, the church was spared so that we may still go on a pilgrimage to his grave.

But in the neighborhood of Sorö there is also another shrine for the pilgrim who wishes to dwell in the memory of the great Holberg. This is his country seat, Terslöse Manor, ten kilometers north of Sorö. In age it may almost vie with Sorö, for it is said to have belonged in the Middle Ages to a daughter of Esbern Snare, Absalon's brother. From olden times it had been a nobleman's estate; it had changed owners numerous times, and had often been rebuilt before Holberg bought it in 1745. He was then past sixty, yet not too old to begin the life of a gentleman farmer though in an unassuming way.

His chief care was, in the first place, to develop the estate and improve the principles of farming. On this subject he says as follows: "Before I attempted to cleanse my fish-ponds, to lay out an orchard on the estate or embellish the rooms, I had the decayed houses either repaired or rebuilt from the ground, stocked the farms with cattle, and

tual church. It was begun already before his death, for there was a very natural desire to show, in some way or other, the great gratitude felt by the institution towards its generous benefactor—and in what other way could one please an old man who thought him-

lightened the villenage of the peasants." That even as a young man he had a thorough knowledge of the peasants' life and mode of thinking is shown in his comedies *Jeppe of the Hill* and *Erasmus Montanus*. Now he had an opportunity of becoming still better acquainted with them, and he valued the country population not a little: "I

never speak with peasants but I learn something from them, for they do not reason except about solid and important matters of which they are thoroughly informed. From them you may learn how the soil should be cultivated, horses and cattle preserved, the forests put in good order, farms built up, and a proper economy conducted. Besides this I profit by their conversation in the language. For I learn from them good old Danish words which are forgotten in the towns. From this you see why I take more pleasure in associating with peasants than with townspeople and why I am sociable in the country and misanthropical in town. Besides this there are several other things in the country which may please the mind. I take pleasure in seeing the fruit of the field come up and be reaped, in watching cows and sheep walking as it were in a procession to their meeting-place morning and evening. The air and the quiet also cause my health to be a little better there than in town."

There was, however, a seamy side to Holberg's life as a country gentleman. By nature he was very careful and accurate in money matters, and as now he was anxious to restore his estates, he easily quarrelled, especially with his bailiffs, but also with the deputy sheriff, parson, and parish clerk, skirmishes which might very easily annoy a man of his fretful disposition. Other troubles also came, such as cattle plague, which in Holberg's time devastated Sjælland and made him write a lengthy treatise dealing with this fearful infliction. Even though his paper did not gain any great importance, it testifies to his public spirit and sound common sense. And so the peasants often sought his advice and aid in difficult matters—indeed, he came very near to being considered a wizard by some!



ENTRANCE TO TERSLØSEGAARD



HOLBERG'S STUDY, TERSLØSEGAARD



SORØ ACADEMY OF TODAY, BUILT IN 1822-28, BY P. MALLING, ARCHITECT

his native country, Norway. It sounds less credible when we are told that he often rode about on a small horse in his dressing-gown and slippers to inspect the work in the fields. There is also a legend that when it began to be cold in the autumn, he kept himself warm by sawing his own firewood in the large room opening on to the garden where the marks of his saw-buck could subsequently be seen in the floor. From there he carried the wood into the hall with his own hands and threw it into the cellar by a trap-door in the floor which is still shown.

The legends of the jokes he played on the peasants sometimes sound like mere fiction. Thus, that he occasionally disguised himself as a beggar and stood at the turnpike and took alms from the passersby, or that in another disguise and with a blackened face he frightened the peasant children at dusk and, having enjoyed their terror for some time, distributed coppers among them. At last quite superstitious legends about him arose. For instance, that he appeared after his death in the shape of a red ghost and cursed the neighboring estate which little by little acquired the land belonging to Tersløse.

He would at any rate have had ample occasion to turn in his grave if he had known how badly posterity dealt with the



THE TOMB OF HOLBERG, BY J. WIEDEWELT, IN SORØ CHURCH

property he had left. The land was disposed of and even part of the garden was sold for a field. The trees he himself had planted were felled, the stone table in his arbor was broken up and laid on the roads; his barns were pulled down, and the manor house itself only escaped a similar fate because by Holberg's will it was designed to be the free residence of a widow. But by and by this endowment was discontinued, and the manor was put up for sale in 1861. A veterinary surgeon who wanted to use the house as a home for infected cattle was a prospective purchaser, but fortunately four Danish country gentlemen, who came forward out of gratitude to Sorö Academy and Holberg, acquired the estate and re-established Holberg's legacy. However, the now necessary thorough restoration of the old house did not take place until a committee in 1905 acquired the estate with a view to making it a self-owning institution. With support from the State, Sorö Academy, and the Royal Theatre, and under the auspices of Martin Nyrop, who built the Town Hall of Copenhagen, Holberg's summer residence was restored by a gentle and expert hand, so that it is now a pleasure to look at its white buildings and red roof. In one or two rooms interiors from the 18th century have been arranged though not any actual Holberg Museum, for there is virtually nothing extant for such a museum. The manor itself as it now stands may be regarded as a memorial to Holberg, a testimony to a lately awakened veneration of his memory. And we may still stand on the hill where the house is and revive that feeling of well-being with which he looked out across the fertile, forest-wreathed Danish landscape.



WIEDEWELT PORTRAIT MEDALLION ON HOLBERG'S TOMB

Swedish Inventions

VII. *Johansson Precision Gauges*

By HOWARD MINGOS

THIRTY-SIX YEARS AGO C. E. Johansson, foreman in the rifle factory of the Swedish government arsenal at Eskilstuna, attacked the problem of making measurements so accurate that there would be no variation. To-day his measuring gauges are within one millionth of an inch of being perfect. If that baffles imagination, compare it with the usual standards of tool and machine making where the limit of accuracy is one ten thousandths of an inch, or the equivalent of one twentieth of a human hair.

Johansson's system combines blocks of steel of various dimensions, from tiny widths so minute that one can hardly see them, to larger measurements. His gauges will determine the exact length of a thing, even if it is one hundred thousandths of an inch.

The blocks are made of steel so hard that by special processes they can be polished so perfectly smooth that one can not detect the slightest variation anywhere. In fact, so smooth are they that Johansson has been credited with approaching more closely than any other the theoretical plane of geometry. When pressed together, his blocks remain together, resisting a direct force tending to pull them apart of more than 200 pounds. This phenomenon is attributed to a film of grease or moisture, so thin that it cannot be seen or measured.

This so-called stacking of the blocks makes it possible to attain any dimensions wanted, and it is evident that such a system requires extraordinary accuracy, else very slight errors in the blocks would be multiplied in the combination. Twenty or a hundred blocks thus stacked together will equal within a millionth of an inch a standard block representing their total dimensions.

The gauges are made in a room kept at 68 degrees Fahrenheit, the average factory temperature, so they will not be affected by temperature changes. They are recognized as the only standards available at reasonable cost, and have been pronounced infallible. This makes them useful in the finest sort of work and also makes possible the interchangeability of manufactured parts essential in quantity production. Ten or a hundred machines can be built to their measurements, the machines taken apart, and the parts mixed up, after which as many machines can again be assembled.

Johansson's factory at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and the American rights to his patents are now owned by the Ford Motor Company.

Current Events

U. S. A.

¶The United States Government has urged on the European debtor nations the settlement not only of actual war obligations to this country but also of the reconstruction loans made after the armistice. It was also indicated in Washington official circles that the American government will not change its position, that the pre-armistice and post-armistice debts should be classified alike and considered on equal terms in any funding negotiations. ¶The comments on this decision among the European debtor nations in some instances showed that settlements are still far off. Washington is not amenable to the request by Italy and Belgium that they should not be called upon to conclude debt settlements until France has made definite arrangements to pay. ¶The Supreme Court of the United States unanimously decided that Congress meant to abandon the policy of keeping the amount of income tax paid and the names of taxpayers secret, completely reversing the decision of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue that the publication of the names and the amounts last year was illegal. Congressional leaders expect to see the law repealed at the next session. ¶Considered a spokesman for President Coolidge on many national questions, Senator James E. Watson of Indiana stated that the administration has determined to make a "tremendous effort" to enforce prohibition in every part of the United States. Senator Watson was speaking before the Couzens committee at Washington, and his remarks were in the nature of refuting certain allegations that at present the prohibition enforcement unit is using up too much time trying to do police work instead of going after the sources whence the bootleg trade gets its supplies of liquor. ¶Speaking at the laying of the corner stone of the Jewish Community Centre in Washington, President Coolidge paid tribute to the Jewish element of the country by pointing out their services in war and peace and from the time of the Revolution to the present, declaring with Lecky that "Hebrew mortar cemented the foundation of American democracy." ¶That Canada might before long send an envoy to the United States to supplement the British Ambassador was the opinion expressed by Sir Robert Falconer, President of the University of Toronto. Sir Robert pointed out that the Monroe Doctrine would be no bar to such a move. His lecture, "The United States as a Neighbor," was considered a strong bid for still closer relations, politically and commercially, between the two countries. ¶There is some speculation as to the President's stand regarding the differences among the members of the Federal Trade Commission. From present reports it seems not impossible that efforts will be made to abolish the Commission.

Denmark

¶ Taking advantage of the recurrent struggle between capital and labor in Denmark, the Conservative party argues in its newspaper organs that much of the difficulty in the way of an amicable adjustment lies in the attitude assumed by the Social-Democratic party now in power. *Berlingske Tidende*, for instance, asks its readers to take a backward glance at the happenings during the last Rigsdag sessions and notice the vacillating attitude of the government with regard to such a question as better pay for the State's employees.

¶ Umbrage is taken at the attitude of the wing of the Social-Democratic party in the Folketing which refused to greet the entrance of King Christian with the customary "Long live the King and the Constitution." ¶ Far different was the reception of the Danish ruler when on a recent evening he made his appearance in the Students' Association where he addressed the University students. King Christian made an excellent impression by his democratic manner and his reference to the fact that he came among the young people as one of them, as a university graduate.

¶ The Conservatives have been prominently before the country with the observance of the one-hundredth birthday anniversary of the late Premier Estrup who, whatever else might be said about the unconstitutionality of his regime, never was suspected of lacking courage to carry through measures he considered essential to the country's wellbeing. That Denmark would not care to repeat the experiences of the Estrup period goes without saying. But his memory is kept green by those who went down in the political debacle that ushered in parliamentary proceedings once more.

¶ Not much faith is placed in Copenhagen in the rumor, said to have originated in London, that Denmark was seeking a guaranty regarding the Slesvig frontier. While this frontier may not be all that Denmark desires, still in view of the fact that the larger border questions, as yet undecided, concern the continental powers, the Danish government undoubtedly will hesitate to bring the matter forward just at present.

¶ The Denmark-Greenland Rigsdag commission has been formed in accordance with the recent law touching the governing of the colony. All four political parties are represented as follows: Left, Vanggaard of the Folketing, and Degnbol of the Landsting; Social-Democratic, Olufson and Kammersgaard of the Folketing; Conservative, Purschel of the Folketing, and Ellinger of the Landsting; Right, Zahle and Pastor Povlsen of the Folketing.

¶ Of outstanding interest in Denmark is the public subscription for funds to furnish adequate quarters for the invaluable collections stored in the present National Museum building. Not only in Denmark itself, but wherever Danes live abroad, this matter of conserving the historic treasures has met with ready response.

Sweden

¶The long struggle about military preparedness, which has filled the Swedish political world for years, was finally ended May 28, when the Riksdag, in joint session, passed the government bill for a reduction of the army. The bill in its final form is a compromise, conceding something to the Liberals, and by this coalition of Liberals with Socialists, against the Conservatives with their strong defense program, the government was able to muster 222 votes for its bill, with 146 opposed. The original bill as presented by the Socialist government called for a reduction in the number of infantry regiments from twenty-six to eighteen; the bill as passed provides for twenty regiments. The time of training for non-commissioned officers is twenty-five days longer than that in the original draft. A hot debate of several days preceded the passage of the bill. ¶After the death of Hjalmar Branting his old friend and associate of many years standing, Finance Minister Thorsson, was made chief of the Socialist party, although he was so ill that he had been compelled to resign his portfolio. His health grew rapidly worse, and on May 5 he died in his native city, Ystad, where he began his career as apprentice to a shoemaker. Thorsson was one of the most widely respected of the Socialist leaders, noted for his integrity, his unassuming simplicity, and his great capacity for work. He was not quite sixty years old at the time of his death. Acting Finance Minister Wigforss will succeed him in the cabinet, while Judge Schlyter has been made advisory member of the government. ¶Among the mountain climbers of Sweden there has been some doubt as to whether the southernmost of Mount Kebnekaise's two peaks, as hitherto supposed, really was the highest mountain in Sweden. Careful measurements have been taken this winter and have resulted in showing that the northern peak, which is extremely difficult to climb, is really the higher, being 2,135 meters above the sea level, while the southern is 2,123 meters. This makes the northernmost of the two peaks the highest point in Sweden. ¶The State has set aside the sum of 1,325,000 kronor in aid of the farmers who suffered losses from the hoof and mouth disease which raged among the cattle in southern Sweden last winter. ¶Sweden this summer seems likely at last to be included in the European system of air traffic. Plans have been made before for air routes, but without practical results. Now new plans have been drawn for communication with Paris, Hamburg and Stettin as well as between Stockholm and Helsingfors, and this time it seems that the program will be carried out. ¶As the successor of the late Bishop Billing of Lund, the dean of the cathedral in that city, Edvard Rohde, has been appointed. To fill the vacant place in the Swedish Academy the author and professor of philosophy Hans Larsson has been selected.

Norway

¶The Norwegian Government, on April 23, submitted to the Storting a bill on the administration of the Spitsbergen Islands, which in a short time will be taken over by the Norwegian authorities. Spitsbergen, or Svalbard, as it will now be called, will not be treated as a colony, but as part of Norway. At the head of the administration there will be a Governor, a "Sysselmand," whose residence will probably be at Advent Bay or Green Harbour. ¶On May 9, the Government submitted to the Storting a bill on arbitration in industrial disputes. Previous laws on arbitration have been only of provisional character. The new law is proposed to become permanent. Arbitration will only partly be compulsory. ¶The celebration of the Centenary of the Norwegian emigration to the United States is exciting much interest in Norway. The Government originally selected the Premier, Johan Ludwig Mowinckel, to represent it at the festivities in Minneapolis, with the Minister for Social Affairs, Lars Oftedal, as substitute. The Storting elected as its representative the President, Ivar Lykke, with C. I. Hambro as substitute. Owing to the political situation, it became, however, impossible for the Premier and the president of the Storting to be absent for the comparatively long time it would take to attend the celebrations, and Mr. Oftedal and Mr. Hambro therefore went to America to represent the Norwegian Government and Parliament respectively. ¶Mr. Oftedal, who was born in 1877, has been editor of *Stavanger Aftenblad*, one of the most influential dailies in Norway, for a quarter of a century. As one of the leading members of the Radical Left, he entered the Blehr Cabinet in 1922, although till then he had not been a member of the Storting. He was elected as representative of Stavanger in 1924. With the exception of the Premier, no politician of the Left enjoys a greater reputation than Mr. Oftedal, his ability being recognized by all parties. ¶Mr. Hambro's name is well known among the Norwegian population of America as a former secretary and present president of "Nordmandsforbundet." A young man still, forty years of age, he has had a very brilliant career. He was only twenty-eight years old when, in 1913, he was appointed chief editor of *Morgenbladet*, a position which he resigned some years ago to devote himself entirely to political work. Since 1918, he has been a member of the Storting for Oslo, elected by the Conservative Party. He is considered one of the best political speakers of Norway. ¶Among the other Norwegian delegates, the best known are the Bishop of Oslo, Johan Lunde, representing the established Lutheran Church of Norway, Professor Frederik Stang, Rector of the University at Oslo, and an ex-Minister of Justice, the celebrated poet, Nils Collett Vogt, representing the Norwegian Authors' Society, and Thoralf Pryser, representing the Norwegian Press Association.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation

For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples, by means of an exchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information—

Officers: President, Hamilton Holt; Vice presidents, John G. Bergquist, John A. Gade and C. S. Peterson; Treasurer, H. Esk. Möller; Secretary, James Creese; Literary Secretary, Hanna Astrup Larsen; Counsel, Henry E. Almberg; Auditors, David Elder & Co.

Government Advisory Committees: Danish—A. P. Weis, Chief of the Department of the Ministry of Education, Chairman; Norwegian—K. J. Hougen, Chief of the Department of Church and Education, Chairman. The Swedish Government is represented in the Swedish American Foundation (below).

Co-operating Bodies: Sweden—Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, Regeringsgatan 27-29, Stockholm, Svante Arrhenius, President; Ira Nelson Morris, Honorary President; J. P. Seeburg, Honorary Vice-President; Eva Fröberg, Secretary; Denmark—Danmarks Amerikanske Selskab, M. I. T. C. Clan, President; N. Feilberg, Secretary, Stjerneborg Alle 8; Norway—Norge-Amerika Fondet, Lille Strandgade 1, Oslo, K. J. Hougen, Chairman; Sigurd Folkestad, Secretary.

Dating from the Edda

The Foundation's edition of *The Poetic Edda* is already a familiar landmark, a point of departure from which are timed all further expeditions into the literature of the old Norsemen. A critic in the *New York Times* begins his review of Thorstein Veblen's translation of *The Laxdæla Saga* with these sentences: "One of the most notable enrichments in recent years of the English store of translated literature was the rendering of the so-called *Poetic Edda* of ancient Iceland, made by Henry Adams Bellows. Now hard upon this masterly reproduction of one of the masterpieces of the world comes a translation by Thorstein Veblen of the Icelandic prose narrative which is known to scholars as the *Laxdæla Saga*."

American Lectures in Stockholm

Another American visitor came to Stockholm in April, 1925, Mr. Samuel Hill of Minneapolis and Seattle, a builder of highways, who spoke to several audiences on the subject of road construction. His address was broadcast by radio. Members of the Road Institute took him on a tour of inspection of Swedish highways. Mr. Hill is a son-in-law of the great railway builder, James J. Hill, and is chiefly responsible for the construction of the famous Columbia River Highway. He is president of the Washington Good Roads' Association

and of the Pacific Highway Association. He was for six years an Overseer of Harvard University.

Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen

Our sister Foundation in Stockholm has published its fifth annual report, a booklet of forty-eight pages. With the report of the President and Secretary are listed the Fellows selected by both Foundations for the year 1924-1925. There are three essays by Fellows included in the report: *Lessons from Swedish Forestry for America* by George S. Perry of the Pennsylvania State Forest School; a review of American library studies by Oskar Lundberg; and an account of American banking by Erik Malmlöf.

At the annual meeting in April in Grand Hotel, Stockholm, Professor Svante Arrhenius was re-elected President of Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen; Archbishop Söderblom, P. T. Berg, and A. R. Nordvall, vice-presidents; Miss Eva Fröberg, secretary. Professor Gerard De Geer was chosen to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors, caused by the death of Prime Minister Branting.

Director Vilhelm Sloman

One of the Foundation's first Fellows, from Denmark, Vilhelm Sloman, has been chosen director of the Industrial Arts Museum in Copenhagen. Since the death of Emil Hannover, two years ago, he has been acting director. Mr. Sloman

is not so well known to the public as was his famous predecessor, but he had shown quiet scholarship and comprehensive knowledge of the kind required for the management of the Museum. The test of the new director comes in the work of moving the collection and reorganizing the Museum in new quarters.

In the Work of Fellows

It is announced in the press that the United States Coast Guard is planning to train some of its officers as specialists in ice patrol, and it is implied that this new program of training begins with the appointment of Lieutenant Edward H. Smith to a Fellowship of the Foundation for study in the Bergen Geo-Physical Institute.....The University of Washington has published a report on "Preserved Pickled Herring" by Clarence Louis Anderson, a former Fellow to Norway.....Gunnar Bergenstrahle, our scholar at Bowdoin College a year ago, has returned to Sweden after a period of banking practice in New York, France, and Switzerland. *Svenska Dagbladet*



JENS CHRISTIAN BAY OF THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY IN CHICAGO, AWARDED A STIPEND FOR LITERARY RESEARCH IN DENMARK

publishes an interview in which Mr. Bergenstrahle remarks that "in America economic studies are directed more to the purely practical than at home."..... E. Franklin Frazier, former Fellow to Denmark, won first prize in an essay contest conducted by the Negro monthly magazine *Opportunity*. Mr. Frazier is now director of the School for Social Work in Atlanta, and proposes to offer next year a course on co-operation in Denmark. . . . The American edition of Professor Arrhenius' popular chemistry book, *Kemi och det Moderna Livet*, was published on June 9th under the title, *Chemistry in Modern Life*. Translation from the Swedish edition and revision for American readers was done by a former Fellow of the Foundation, Dr. Clifford S. Leonard, Fellow in Chemistry to Sweden in 1920-1921, National Research Fellow in Pharmacology at Yale.

The California Chapter

On May 7 Fru Signe Lund, the Norwegian composer, lectured before the California Chapter of the Foundation and the Scandinavian Club of the University of California. She discussed the Norwegian women in music, art, and literature, and showed a set of slides including portraits as well as scenes of Norwegian mountains and towns.

The New York Chapter

The New York Chapter of the Foundation held its annual meeting at the Hotel McAlpin on Monday, May 4, to hear the annual reports of the various committees and to elect officers for the coming year. The officers elected are: G. Thomson-Parker, President; Dr. C. G. Molin, first vice-president; Dr. Harald Bryn, second vice-president; Mr. Harold Rambusch, Treasurer; Mrs. Harry Schultz de Brun, Assistant Treasurer; Miss Margaret Hjørnevik, Secretary; Mrs. A. J. Riis, Secretary of Allied Committees. Chairmen of the various Committees are: Social Committee, Baroness

Alma Dahlerup; Membership Committee, Dr. C. G. Molin; Student Committee, Mrs. G. Thomson-Parker; Advisory Committee, Mr. Emil F. Johnson; Music Committee, Mr. Louis Birk; Publicity Committee, Mr. H. Sundby-Hansen.

A New Danish Consul in Minnesota

Mr. Thomas J. Skellet of Minneapolis has recently been appointed Danish vice-consul for the state of Minnesota. Mr. Skellet is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota Chapter of the Foundation.

Aage Löwener

The following Resolution, presented by Mr. Henry G. Leach, was passed by the Trustees at their meeting on May 2, 1925:

RESOLVED, That the Trustees of The American-Scandinavian Foundation, assembled in New York at their first meeting after the death on April 14, 1925, of Aage Löwener of Copenhagen, record their sorrow and sense of loss. Mr. Löwener had been a personal friend of the original benefactor and establisher of the Foundation, Niels Poulson. He joined with others of his countrymen in enlarging the work which Mr. Poulson had begun and became a donor of a Fellowship from 1920 to 1925. The American students found no warmer friend in Denmark. As a representative of more than twenty American firms in Northern Europe, Mr. Löwener exerted a great influence for many years upon business intercourse with America, always with such honor as to make for friendship between the nations.

A Monument to Colonel Hans Heg

Also in the land from which the immigrants set sail many festivities will mark the celebration of the Norse-American Centennial. Of special interest to the visitors from America will be the dedication on Midsummer Day at Lier of a monument to Colonel Hans Heg, commander of the Fifteenth Wisconsin regi-



FJELDE'S STATUE OF COL. HANS CHRISTIAN HEG OF THE FIFTEENTH WISCONSIN

ment during the Civil War, a regiment composed almost entirely of Norwegians and fighting under a Norwegian banner. The statue, a gift from Norwegian-Americans, has been modeled by Paul Fjelde, who last year was awarded a traveling fellowship by the American-Scandinavian Foundation that he might pursue his art studies in the Scandinavian countries.

Northern Lights



MADAM BRYN, WIFE OF THE MINISTER OF NORWAY, FRU KJELSBURG, AND MRS. HENRIK SHIPSTEAD IN WASHINGTON

The International Council of Women

The Scandinavian countries were well represented at the Quinquennial conference of the International Council of Women, May 4 to 14, at Washington, D. C. The Danish delegation was headed by Fröken Henni Forchhammer, one of Denmark's representatives in the League of Nations at Geneva. The Norwegian group had Fru Betzy Kjelsberg as leader. Fru Anna Backer is the international secretary and president of the press committee.

In examining the programme of the sessions one can but notice that a prominent part in the proceedings was taken by the Scandinavian women. More than a score of the proposals and amendments to be acted on were presented by these delegations. At one of the three public meetings held during the conference Fru Anna Backer delivered an address on *International Arbitration and Security*

Against War. The Standing Committee on the Press has as its Convener Fröken Frederikke Mörck of Denmark; the Committee on Suffrage and the Rights of Citizenship, Fru Betzy Kjelsberg of Norway, and many others served as officers in the organization.

The Norwegian Woman

Fru Marie Michelet, one of the Norwegian delegates to the Quinquennial Conference of the International Council of Women at Washington, D. C., delivered a lecture at the Norwegian Club in Brooklyn on the afternoon of May 3d. Fru Michelet, who is a leader in many of the women's organizations in Norway, gave an interesting and enjoyable account of the present position and past strivings of women in her country, where they have now progressed so far that only the ranks of the army, navy, and clergy are closed to them. Reverend Christen Bruun and Reverend Rasmus Andersen also made short addresses, and Christian Schiött played the piano compositions of Agathe Backer-Gründahl and Signe Lund. Mrs. Gudrun Löchen Drewsen was chairman of the committee in charge of the affair.

Centennial Visitors

Norway is sending many of her leading men and women to be her representatives at the Norse-American Centennial festivities. Among them is Bishop Johan Lunde, of Oslo, successor to Bishop Tandberg as the primate of Norway. This is the bishop's second visit to America; he was here in 1914, when the one hundredth anniversary of Norway's independence was celebrated.

Student singers from the Scandinavian Countries have on other occasions been welcome visitors among us, but to the singers from the University of Norway who arrived in May belongs the distinction of being the first mixed chorus, for thirty of the group of sixty are women,

and one of them, Betty Lagercrantz Sorkness, is president of the singers. Their director is Alfred Russ. Besides singing at the official Centennial Celebration they are giving concerts in many of our larger cities and in Norwegian centers. Their first appearance was in the Academy of Music in Brooklyn on the seventeenth of May, where they received an official welcome from Consul-General Hans Fay and were greeted by a capacity audience.

Following the concert there was a banquet in their honor at the St. George Hotel, attended by more than seven hundred guests. The main address from our foreign visitors was that by Norway's great lyric poet, Nils Collett Vogt, who is here as the representative of the Authors' League of Norway.

A New Swedish Grammar

The lecturer in Swedish at the University of London, Im. Björkhagen, Phil. Lic., has published a *Modern Swedish Grammar* and as a complement to it a *First Swedish Book*, from the press of P. A. Nordstedt and Sons, Stockholm. The author has held the lectureship at the University since it was instituted in 1918, and reports an increasing interest in the study in England.

Selma Lagerlöf

Gösta Berling's Saga under the title, *I Cavalieri di Ekebu*, had its premier on the operatic stage at the La Scala in Milan last March, where it was pronounced a great success. The score is the work of the Italian composer, Riccardo Zandonai, and the libretto is by Rissatto.

Another of Selma Lagerlöf's novels, *Jerusalem*, is about to be filmed. A Swedish firm, Nordwesti, has undertaken the project and there will be two parts, just as in the book, one in Dalecarlia and the other in Jerusalem. Work will be begun about June first and it is expected

that it will be completed by the middle of August.

The latest English translation of this widely read author's books is *The Treasure* (*Herr Arnes Penningar*), translated by Arthur G. Chater and published by Doubleday Page and Company.

Swedish Student Song

Swedish university singers have long been famed far outside the boundaries of Sweden. More than twenty years ago the choir of Lund University toured the United States and left a haunting memory of beautiful song. This time the youngest of the great university choirs in Sweden, the Student Choir of Stockholm, is visiting us. The tour began with a concert in Carnegie Hall, New York, on June 4, and continued westward and northward, ending with the New England states.



EINAR RALF, DIRECTOR OF STOCKHOLM'S STUDENT CHORUS, WHOSE AMERICAN TOUR BEGAN AT CARNEGIE HALL, NEW YORK, JUNE 4

The director is Einar Ralf. The choir has fifty members.

The Student Choir of Stockholm recently organized a great meeting of Scandinavian university choirs in Stockholm under the patronage of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince. Choirs from Copenhagen and Oslo, as well as from the Swedish university cities, took part.

Scandinavian Study

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study was held on the campus of the University of Chicago May 1st and 2nd. At the first session the following papers were read and discussed: 1. *A Note on Voluspa*, by Dr. Alexander H. Krappe, University of Minnesota. 2. *Björnson's Mors Hænder: A Critical Study*, by Professor A. M. Sturtevant, University of Kansas. 3. *Norwegian Elements in MS. Royal Irish Academy 23 D 43*, by Professor Henning Larsen, University of Iowa. 4. *When a Novelist is in a Hurry*, by Professor O. E. Rølvaag, St. Olaf College. 5. *The Didactic Purpose of Some Eddic Lays*, by Professor Lee M. Hollander, University of Texas.

The Society attended a dinner, at which Professor Geo. T. Flom served as toastmaster. Professor John M. Manly, who had been present at the first meeting of the Society, expressed his appreciation of the work done by the Society during the years of its existence. Professor Julius E. Olson spoke of the significance of Fredrika Bremer's book, *America of the Fifties*, recently published by the American-Scandinavian Foundation.

Saturday morning Professor G. T. Flom, University of Illinois, read a paper on *Word-taboo, a Chapter in Folklore and Linguistics*, and Professor Jules Mauritzson one on *The Poems in Viktor Rydberg's Vapensmeden. The Suiones of Tacitus*, by Professor Kemp Malone, was the title of the third paper read.

The following officers were elected: President, Dr. C. N. Gould; Vice-President, Professor L. M. Larson; Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Joseph Alexis; Editor, Professor A. M. Sturtevant; Educational Secretary, Miss Maren Michelet. The new members of the Advisory Committee are Professor A. B. Benson, Professor Jules Mauritzson, and Professor Edw. Vickner.

A Satchel Guide

Professor Crockett has added a hundred pages to that handy symposium among guide books, *A Satchel Guide to Europe*, which Americans have been slipping into traveling bags since 1872. In the forty-fifth annual edition, Norway, Denmark, and Sweden are included for the first time. The new pages come out of Professor Crockett's experiences of last summer when he covered the route that he now recommends for American tourists. Of course, the tourist may begin where he wishes—at North Cape, Bergen, Oslo, Göteborg or Copenhagen. "Differentiated from each other as these lands are," says Professor Crockett in his introduction, "in physical contour, in climate, in natural or other attractions, distinct from each other as are their peoples—though alike in their kindliness and their progressiveness—it has been deemed best, since many of the logical routes of the tourist pay no more attention to national boundaries than does the Lapplander, to treat the three countries as a unit." In his recommended reading list for the Scandinavian countries Professor Crockett names as "the best single volume Leach's *Scandinavia of the Scandinavians*." He includes four publications of the Foundation, *Scandinavian Art*, *What You See in Denmark*, *What You See in Sweden*, and *What You See in Norway*.

Leiv Eiriksson Square

Leiv Eiriksson continues to gain ground in his conquest of America. On

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April 17th Mayor Hylan approved a resolution introduced by Alderman Charles W. Dunn to name a large open space at 67th Street and Fourth Avenue, in the heart of the Norwegian section of Brooklyn, Leiv Eiriksson Square, in honor of the old Viking seafarer and discoverer. The formal dedication took place May 23rd with appropriate ceremonies. The next step should be to give the square its statue of the doughty Norseman.

Art at Lehigh University

Mr. Emil Gelhaar of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, an American artist of Swedish descent, exhibited during the week of the Bach Festival, May 26th to June 10th, painting and sculptures at Lehigh University, by the leading contemporary artists of America. There were one hundred canvases, of which fifteen were by Mr. Gelhaar.

Swedish-American Art at Chicago

In the thirteenth annual Exhibition by


American Artists of Swedish Descent at the Swedish Club in Chicago forty-five artists participated, three of the number showing sculptures. Besides these and paintings there were four etchings by the well-known portrait painter, Arvid Nyholm. Prizes in paintings were awarded to Carl A. Wallins, Carl Erik Lindin, and Thomas Hall; the prize in sculpture to Carl Anderson. Honorable mentions were given to Ann P. Anderson, and Signe Bohman. A popularity prize went to Gotthilf Ahlman. A gratifying number of sales were made during the exhibition.

American Art

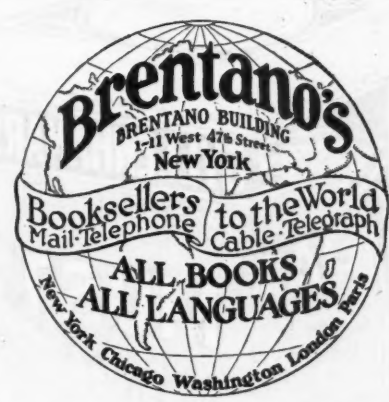
A Swedish survey of American Art has been written by Johnny Roosval, the well-known professor of the history of art at Stockholm University, who visited this country in 1923. What most impressed the author was American architecture, especially as developed in the skyscrapers, and this he considers our greatest achievement.

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TRADE NOTES

DANISH BUTTER AND BACON IN ENGLAND

While England is considered Denmark's best customer for butter and bacon, certain conditions have arisen recently which appear to make it necessary for the Danish purveyors to exercise greater care in the matter of sales, etc. For instance, the Danish Consul-General in London, Harald Faber, acting on instruction from his home government, has brought suit against a large trading company which is charged with having sold American bacon for Danish in a number of its retail establishments in Lancashire.

With regard to Danish butter in England, the Maypole Dairy Company, which is the distributor of the product in that country, through its director, Valdemar Graae, at the recent annual meeting of the company asked the Danish dairy farmer not to forget that occasional inquiries from other quarters at perhaps better figures could not weigh against the steady purchases of the Maypole Company with its vast distributing machinery. Mr. Graae admitted that the price paid recently was not what it should have been for this first-class article, but he added that conditions had not been normal. He felt that confidence in Danish butter had been fully established in England, and asked the Danish dairy producers to continue to co-operate as best they could.

FARRIS WATER IN AMERICA

The Farris Company of Norway is finding a good outlet for their mineral water in United

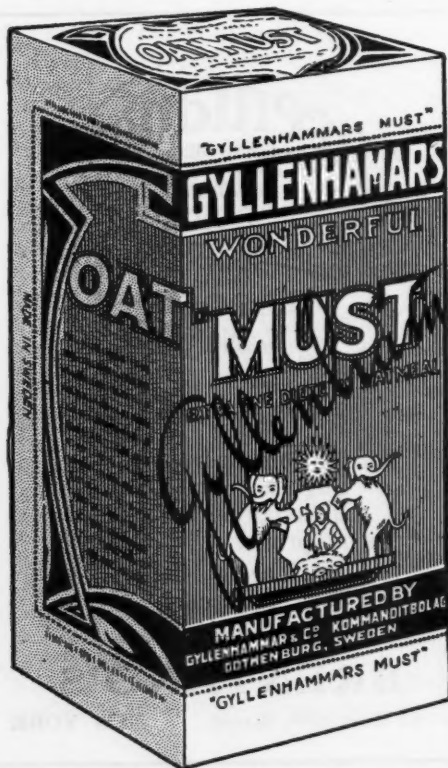
States. Fifty thousand bottles were recently shipped to New York. The greater part of it will go to Minneapolis, where Farris will be served at all occasions in connection with the centennial celebration there.

SWEDISH DIAMOND BORING CO. IN U. S.


As a subsidiary of the Swedish Diamond Boring Company, the Swedish American Prospecting Company has been formed in the United States with the New York banking firm of Brown Brothers & Co. interested in the enterprise. The company utilizes the invention of two Swedish engineers, Nathorst and Lundberg, for discovering hidden mineral sources. These methods have proved most successful in locating important ore deposits for the Swedish government in the northern part of that country. Several crews are now operating in this country and Canada, but the results of their work has not yet been made public.

THE WORLD'S COTTON CROP IN PROSPECT

Prospects that the world cotton crop of 1924-25 may total 24,700,000 bales is the estimate of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as against 20,613,000 bales in the closing year of the World War. The National City Bank of New York, in commenting on this report, says that it shows that the world's output of cotton, now the chief textile and clothing material, has grown from approximately 1,000,000 bales in 1800 to nearly 3,000,000 in 1850, 15,000,000 bales in 1900, and 27,500,000 bales in the year preceding the opening of the World War.



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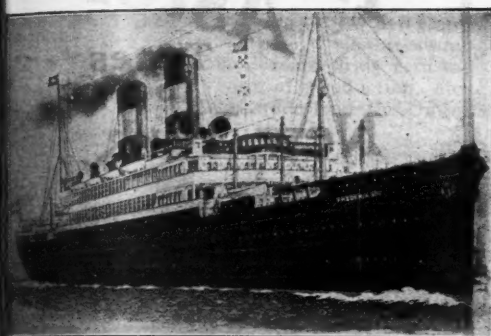
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SHIPPING NOTES

SWEDEN'S INLAND WATER COURSE AND TOURISTS

As never before Sweden this year is making known to tourists the beauties of the country through which passes the Göta Canal, the "Blue Belt," as it is appropriately called. Stretching across the country from Göteborg to Stockholm this water way has earned a reputation which increases with each summer as more and more visitors take advantage of a mode of travel combining comfort and enjoyment of natural beauties.

FREIGHT INCOME OF DANISH MERCANTILE MARINE

According to official figures the gross income of the Danish marine freight shipping in 1924 amounted to 237,000,000 kroner and the time-charter to 12,100,000 kroner. The corresponding figures for 1923 were 207,000,000 kroner and 10,500,000 kroner, showing a total rise in income of 14-15 percent.

NORWAY HAS LESS SHIPS, BUT GREATER TONNAGE

While there was a reduction of 34 vessels in the number of Norwegian ships in 1924, because of the less demand for sailing ships, the tonnage of the mercantile marine was increased with 31,000 tons during 1924. The nation's total tonnage is now 2,603,000 tons, and the number of ships 3,634.

DANISH-FRENCH STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S PROGRESS

At the annual meeting of the Danish-French Steamship Company, held in Copenhagen, Consul General A. N. Petersen reported that the net profit for the year amounted to 783,842 kroner, 8 per cent

of which the board of directors ordered paid stockholders. It would have been possible to have made the dividend 12 per cent, it was stated, but it was found advisable to add 285,681 kroner to the reserve fund.

GÖTEBORG FREE PORT REDUCES TAXES

With each year the Free Port of Göteborg proves its greater and greater usefulness to shipping, and with reduction in harbor dues the port's popularity is bound to increase. For all goods in transit the surtax of 40 per cent has been abolished altogether, so that in the future the basic tax alone is collected. On goods for import the surtax has been cut from 40 to 35 per cent and on all vessels a corresponding reduction has been made from 50 to 40 per cent.

NORWEGIAN COD CATCH BEST SINCE 1897

The result of the Norwegian cod fishing the past winter season was the best since 1897, more than 20,000,000 fish being caught around Lofoten alone, while the total catch is placed at nearly 33,000,000. Production of codliver oil, however, is somewhat less than last year, some 60,000 barrels against 70,000 barrels the year before.

NORWEGIAN COMPANY BUYS ENGLISH SHIPYARD

Wivenhoe Shipyard in Colchester, England, has been purchased by a Norwegian company through Otto Andersen, Bergen. The company was originally called the Rennie-Forrest Shipbuilding, Engineering & Drydock Company, and was reorganized in 1920 with a capital of 500,000 pounds sterling.

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FINANCIAL NOTES

SCANDINAVIA OPPOSES U. S. TREASURY AGENTS

The efforts of American treasury agents abroad to make inquiries for tariff purposes into business affairs of European firms engaged in exporting to the United States are meeting with opposition in the Scandinavian countries, especially in Sweden, where the press urges the Government to refuse such requests. Other European countries are said to take a similar stand. Under the 1922 tariff law foreign firms refusing to give information of cost of production, etc., may have their products excluded from the United States.

NORWEGIAN CITIES STATE TAX

The combined property and income tax paid the Norwegian Government by the various municipalities in 1924-25 amounted to 74,619,485 kroner, of which amount Oslo contributed 43,115,437 kroner, with Bergen the next largest to the amount of 9,095,303 kroner. Of the remaining towns and cities, 65 paid less than half a million kroner each in Government tax.

LOAN TO BURMEISTER AND WAIN

Brown Brothers & Co. of New York have recently underwritten a \$2,000,000 Fifteen-Year 6% Sinking Fund External Gold Bond loan of the well known shipyard company Burmeister & Wain, Ltd. of Copenhagen. The bonds are dated July 1st, 1925 and will mature July 1st, 1940. They are offered at 95¼ and interest to yield 6.50%. Burmeister & Wain, Ltd. is at present the world's largest manufacturers of Diesel engines, and it owns the largest shipyards in Scandinavia which are devoted chiefly to repair work and construction of ocean-going Diesel motorships. It was established in 1864. The proceeds of the present issue of bonds will be used to increase the working capital to enable the company to handle the large amount of business on hand and the large number of orders which are being received.

NEW NORWEGIAN BANKING LAW

Outstanding among the requirements of the new Norwegian banking law is article 3 which decrees that in the future all banks must be stock companies and not personally owned institutions. One of the effects of the law will be to reduce the number of banks from 170 to about 110. Of interest to foreign bankers is the provision that foreign branch banks may be established in the country. However, where such permission is granted a foreign bank, there must be reciprocal permission for Norwegian banks to establish branches in the foreign country concerned. Another provision of the new law is that a bank may not invest more than 20 per cent of its capital in the shares of other companies and then only 10 per cent in the shares of an individual company. For the existing banks a transitional period of two years is allowed to arrange their business in conformity with the new law.

MORE LIGHT ON THE ANDELSBANK

Following the failure of the Danish Andelsbank (Co-operative Bank), examination reveals a bet-

ter state of affairs than was at first supposed to exist. The National Bank took a hand in the liquidation, with the result that 50 per cent of the deposits were made available as a start to depositors. There is due to the Andelsbank about 15,000,000 kroner from various dairies, and strong efforts are now being made to collect this amount. The bank was the parent concern of various farming co-operative associations.

SWEDISH BANKS SHOW GOOD PROFITS

Among the several Swedish banks whose earnings were especially good during the past fiscal year, the Göteborg Bank reports a net profit of 4,408,881 kronor which, joined to the undistributed balance of 2,395,424 kronor, left a total net balance of 6,804,305 kronor. A dividend of 25 kronor per share was declared. The Stockholm Mortgage and Title Guaranty Bank made a net profit of 3,310,000 kronor and paid an unchanged dividend of 15 per cent. In the Government Postal Savings Bank the deposits increased during the year by 8,543,309 kronor, making the total 143,133,459 kronor.

BIG NORWEGIAN LOAN IN THE UNITED STATES

A banking group composed of Blair and Co., Inc., Chase Securities Corporation, Brown Bros. and Co., National Bank of Commerce, White, Weld and Co., and Blyth, Winner and Co., were the fiscal agents for the new Norwegian loan of \$3,000,000 obtained in the United States. This loan, which again showed the confidence of New York bankers in the stability of the Norwegian government, was perhaps the most important Norwegian loan ever placed here. The loan is for 5½% sinking fund external loan gold bonds, dated June 1, 1925, and due June 1, 1965. The bonds are the direct obligations of the Kingdom of Norway, and the proceeds of the issue will be used in part for conversion purposes. It is intended to call the Kingdom of Norway 8% gold bonds for payment, October 1, 1925. The price of the new bonds is 96¼ and interest to yield 5.70% to maturity.

DANISH NATIONAL BANK'S EXCHANGE RESERVES

After the Exchange Equalization Fund was placed at the disposal of the Danish National Bank last year it has been difficult to ascertain the extent of the exchange reserves to which the bank had access, as no accounts of the displacements in the Equalization Fund are made public. However, since May the krone continued to increase in value, and this has had a strengthening effect in all financial circles.

SWEDISH BRANCH BANKING INCREASE CRITICIZED

An increase of almost 100 per cent in the number of Swedish branch banks since 1913 has been accompanied by a considerable reduction in the number of parent organizations as a result of mergers. In 1913 there were 73 private banks represented in 370 cities and towns. At the end of 1924 the number of banks was reduced to 33, but the number of localities with banking facilities increased to about 790. Recently a move has been made toward a reduction in the number of branch banks.

America of the Fifties



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The Norse-American Centennial in Minneapolis was made possible by the whole-hearted co-operation of citizens not of Norwegian blood. Their sympathy made it not merely the anniversary of a racial group but an event in American history. This American participation reached its crowning point in the address of PRESIDENT COOLIDGE. That the President of the United States should consider the occasion important enough to journey all the way from Washington solely to take part in it, is a fact that will never be forgotten by any one of Northern blood. That he should further have paid it the compliment of a careful and studied address, revealing a thorough knowledge of the historical facts and a most generous spirit in their interpretation, made the event the more to be cherished. The address has made a profound impression not only here but also in Norway, where it has been spread broadcast through the newspapers. A suggestion that it be incorporated in the school-books to be conned by Norwegian boys and girls in future years shows how the people there have appreciated the President's speech.

It is no breach of confidence that "Fionnlaoch," whose poetic tribute to Roald Amundsen was written for the Review, is none other than JOHN H. FINLEY, the Associate Editor of the *New York Times*. We have had before a tribute in verse from his hand, to the Swedish round-the-world flyer, Eric Nelson. Dr. Finley—who contends that America should really have been named Erica—has on countless occasions lent his fire-tipped pen, his gracious presence, and his Irish wit to the great events of the Scandinavians. The Norse-American Centennial and the return of Amundsen from the polar skies brought forth

eloquent editorials from him. Few Americans have a finer appreciation of the best things Scandinavian, and no American friend of the North has a wider audience.

True to its custom, the REVIEW this August introduces a new Scandinavian writer of fiction. This time it is GYRITHE LEMCHE, one of the leading women writers of Denmark, who in simple, everyday tales reveals high artistic skill and a deep human insight. She is active in the woman movement of her country.

EYFRAM LUNDMARK is a Swedish contributor. J. STRÖM TEJSEN is a well known architect of Copenhagen.

Twelve years ago ROALD AMUNDSEN wrote for the REVIEW an article called *The North and South Poles: The Steam Boilers of the Earth*. It was his article of faith in Arctic exploration, a summary of his scientific purposes. When Amundsen's planes had taken off for the north Polar regions in June of the present year, when the American public was repeating the questions of newspaper headlines as to what had happened to him, the editor of *The Forum* remembered this early article of Amundsen's and asked permission to reprint it in his July number. Just as this number of *The Forum* came from the press, we received our first brief telegraphic reports of Amundsen's return. Every word from Amundsen had news value. Editors of daily papers seized this article in *The Forum* as an authoritative statement from the explorer's own pen and featured it with the news from Norway. For example, it was displayed in *The New York Herald-Tribune* and *The Chicago Evening Post*. And thus, after twelve years, the REVIEW's article became the news of the day, under a new title, *Is It Worth While?*



THE OLD CASTLE, PAINTING BY PRINCE EUGEN, 1893